

BLACK DIAMOND  
WESTERN

AUTHORIZED  
A. C. M. P.

CONFORMS  
to the  
COMICS  
CODE

# BLACK



10¢

# DIAMOND

# WESTERN

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LEV GLEASON, PUB., CHARLES BIRO AND BOB WOOD, EDITORS

A  
FULL-SIZE  
**52** page  
MAG!

THIS LASSO IS OUR  
ONLY HOPE, RELIAPON! IF  
WE FAIL THIS INDIAN  
TASK, WE DIE!

CHARLES  
BIRO

LEV GLEASON  
PUBLICATIONS



[illegible]



# WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT PIMPLES

**Acne, Blackheads, and other externally caused Skin Blemishes**

**W**HEN pimply skin is your problem, the first thing to get straight is that you *can* and *should* do something about it. To develop the attractiveness of your face is not mere vanity. It is an "open sesame" towards bringing the real **YOU** closer to other people and giving your personality the poise and confidence it needs. Your good qualities — intelligence, character, dignity — all go to naught... are completely cancelled out by a skin that "nobody loves to touch." Remember, the **YOU** that people see first is your face.

## SKIN PROBLEMS

### DEMAND IMMEDIATE CARE

Medical statistics tell us that blemished skin usually occurs from adolescence on through adult life. The problem at the adolescent stage is serious enough to deserve attentive care as a family matter. In adulthood, when life's responsibilities are so much weightier, it is doubly important to exert great effort to eliminate these blemishes. And, there is no better time to get pimples under control than *now*.

### DON'T ABUSE SKIN

The first instinctive reaction to pimples and blackheads is to squeeze them out with your fingers. A bit of experimentation along these lines soon provides convincing proof that this succeeds only in inflaming your skin and spreading the infection. Under no circumstances should pimples and blackheads ever be squeezed.



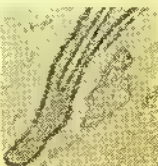
## MICROSCOPE SHOWS IMPORTANT BASIS FOR EXTERNALLY CAUSED PIMPLES AND BLACKHEADS

Let's take a look through the microscope to see what's behind those unsightly pimples. The high-powered lenses show your skin coated with a covering which originated from two sources—one, internally and the other, externally.

The internal substances on your skin include dead cells, residue from the sweat glands, and a high quantity of oil excreted by the sebaceous glands. A most important factor in skin disorders occurs when thousands of these tiny sebaceous glands discharge more oil than the skin can use for lubrication. Unless special care is given, the oil forms a heavy film which attracts foreign matter to your skin much as any oil mop picks up dust. These infectious external substances may be classified into three general groups:

1. Airborne materials such as dust, pollens, condensation products of smoke, vapors, etc.
2. Materials brought in contact with the skin, such as tiny fragments of clothing, bedding, cosmetics.
3. Micro-organisms such as bacteria and fungi.

See the difference between a healthy skin and a pimply skin in the microscopic reproductions below.



A. Normal skin



B. Sick, pimply skin

Diagram A shows a normal-size, smoothly functioning sebaceous gland. Diagram B pictures sick, pimply skin. Notice that the sebaceous gland is a swollen mass of trapped oil, waste and infectious bacteria.

### TRY THIS SENSIBLE WAY

Two sensible aims to achieve in controlling this skin condition are: to clear the pores of clogging matter, and to inhibit the excessive oiliness of the skin. Toward these ends, Dornol Products' research makes available two formulas. One is to aid in thorough cleansing by highly detergent penetration which simplifies the removal of waste and foreign matter. The other is to discourage oiliness with clinically-proved ingredients, and to kill infec-



tious bacteria often associated with externally caused pimples and blackheads.

### BLEMISHES COVERED UP

To remove the distressing embarrassment of these skin blemishes, the second Dornol formula exerts a "cover-up" action on your broken out skin while the medication does its work. This, plus its pleasant odor, will spare you the mental distress which is associated with unsightly, malodorous, medicated preparations. Imagine! You can apply this Dornol formula to your skin by day and face the immediate present with greater confidence in your appearance, while secure in the knowledge that medication is acting to remove old blemishes and keep away new ones. What this "cover-up" action alone is worth in peace of mind is beyond calculation. No longer need prying eyes make you wince with humiliation and misery. Now because of this wonderful feature of the Dornol treatment, you can put your best foot forward... at once!

### SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

OR

### DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK

We know what the Dornol treatment has done for others, so we want you to try it at our risk. A few minutes a day invested in our treatment can yield more gratifying results than you ever dared hope for. This is what we say to you: If you are not delighted in every way by the improved condition and general appearance of your skin in just 10 days, simply return the unused portion and we will refund not only the price you paid—but **DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK**—everything is fairer than that? You have everything to gain... and we take all the risk!

**How to get the Dornol Treatment immediately:** Just send your name and address to DORNOL PRODUCTS, Inc., Dept. 1007-C, 363 Central Park Ave., Yonkers, N. Y. Be sure to print clearly! By return mail we will ship the Dornol treatment to you in a plain package. When postman delivers the package, pay on \$1.98 plus postage. Or, if you wish to save postal fee, send \$2 now and we will prepay postage. Which ever way you order, the **DOUBLE REFUND GUARANTEE** still prevails. Don't delay another minute, send for the Dornol Medicated Skin treatment with "cover-up" feature... at once! Sorry no Canadian C.O.D.'s.

# BLACK DIAMOND

in "THE SEVEN DEADLY DEEDS"

CUT OUT AND SAVE!



SEE FREE VALUABLE TRADING CARD OFFER, FOLLOWING THIS STORY

SEVEN DAYS... SEVEN TASKS... THAT SEVEN CHANCES TO DIE! THAT WAS CHIEF LIMPING OTTER'S GRIM ULTIMATUM TO BLACK DIAMOND, FABULOUS MARSHAL OF THE 1870'S! TO FAIL MEANT THE DEATH OF A THOUSAND ARROWS! YET NEVER FOR THE MASKED HERO NEVER SEEMED SO IMPOSSIBLE AS IT DID IN THE HARROWING ADVENTURE OF "THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS"!

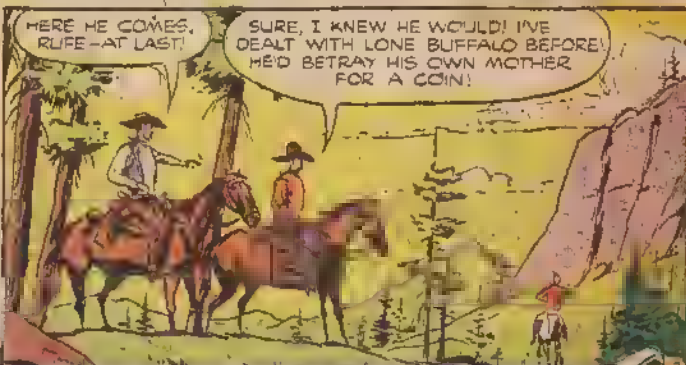
HERE GOES! THIS IS THE FIRST OF THE SEVEN TASKS - TO CROSS THE RAPIDS! IF I FAIL, IT'S THE END OF RELIAPON, EL LOBO AND ME!



AT A REMOTE SPOT IN THE HILLS, TWO MEN WAIT IMPATIENTLY AMONG THE JACK PINES FOR THE SOUND OF AN APPROACHING RIDER...

HERE HE COMES, RUFE - AT LAST!

SURE, I KNEW HE WOULD! I'VE DEALT WITH LONE BUFFALO BEFORE! HE'D BETRAY HIS OWN MOTHER FOR A COIN!



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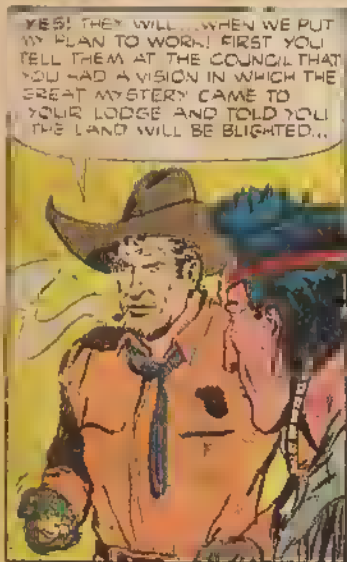
I AM LATE! BUT I HAD TO MAKE SURE I WASN'T FOLLOWED!

GOOD! BECAUSE IF YOUR PEOPLE KNEW WHAT'S GOING ON AT THIS MEETING, WE'D BE THREE DEAD FISH!



I WANT YOU TO CONVINCE YOUR TRIBE TO MOVE OFF THE LAND THEY'RE LIVING ON! I WANT THEM TO GO ELSEWHERE!

HO! IT WOULD BE EASIER TO MOVE THE SKY... OR THE GREAT SEA WATER! THE HUNTING GROUNDS ARE GOOD! THE CROPS ARE GOOD! MY PEOPLE WILL NOT MOVE!



YES! THEY WILL... WHEN WE PUT MY PLAN TO WORK! FIRST YOU TELL THEM AT THE COUNCIL THAT YOU HAD A VISION IN WHICH THE GREAT MYSTERY CAME TO YOUR LODGE AND TOLD YOU THE LAND WILL BE BLIGHTED...



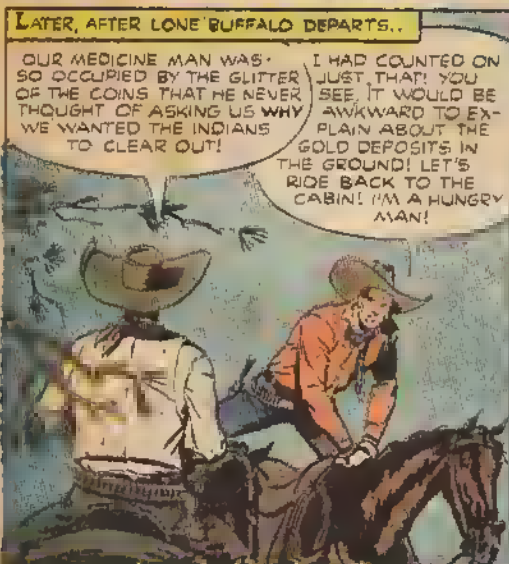
THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME! THEY WILL DEMAND PROOF!

AND AS TRIBAL MEDICINE MAN, YOU'LL GIVE THEM PROOF! SEE THIS POWDER! IT'S A MILD POISON... BUT IT'LL KILL THE CROPS! IT'LL ALSO KILL FISH IN STREAMS AND MAKE PEOPLE SLIGHTLY SICK WHEN THEY DRINK IT IN THE WATER!



I THINK YOU UNDERSTAND! THERE WILL BE MANY, MANY MORE COINS FOR YOU LATER!

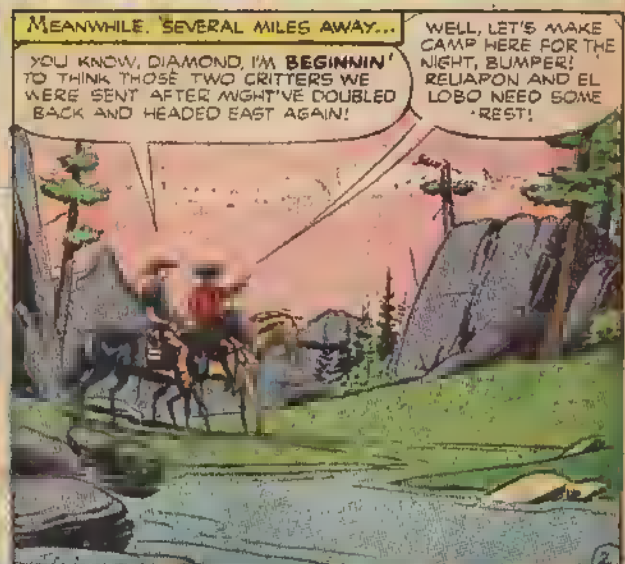
IT WILL REQUIRE MANY, MANY MORE COINS FOR IF THEY EVER FIND ME OUT...



LATER, AFTER LONE BUFFALO DEPARTS...

OUR MEDICINE MAN WAS SO OCCUPIED BY THE GLITTER OF THE COINS THAT HE NEVER THOUGHT OF ASKING US WHY WE WANTED THE INDIANS TO CLEAR OUT!

I HAD COUNTED ON JUST THAT! YOU SEE, IT WOULD BE AWKWARD TO EXPLAIN ABOUT THE GOLD DEPOSITS IN THE GROUND! LET'S RIDE BACK TO THE CABIN! I'M A HUNGRY MAN!



MEANWHILE, SEVERAL MILES AWAY...

YOU KNOW, DIAMOND, I'M BEGINNIN' TO THINK THOSE TWO CRITTERS WE WERE SENT AFTER MIGHT'VE DOUBLED BACK AND HEADED EAST AGAIN!

WELL, LET'S MAKE CAMP HERE FOR THE NIGHT, BUMPER! RELIAPON AND EL LOBO NEED SOME REST!

ORDERS ARE TO FIND THEM AND BRING THEM IN! WE'LL RESUME OUR SEARCH IN THE MORNING!

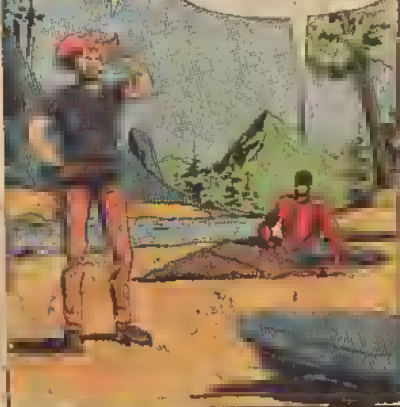
THE NEXT MORNING AS DAWN SPREADS OVER EASTERN SKIES IN CRIMSON HUE...

FISH...YEAH! PLENTY OF 'EM! BUT THEY'RE ALL DEAD!

TROUT JUST DON'T ROLL OVER AND DIE LIKE FLIES! LET'S GO UPSTREAM AND SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING!

NOW WHAT DO WE DO FOR BREAKFAST?

THAT'S NOT MUCH OF A PROBLEM... WITH BERRIES IN THE WOODS AND FISH IN THE STREAM!



PALEFACES! THEY'VE SEEN ME!

LOOK!

COME ON!



GO AFTER HIM, BUMPER! KEEP HIM IN SIGHT! RELIAPON AND I WILL CATCH UP!



IT'S CYANIDE! I CAN TELL BY THE SMELL! HE'S BEEN POISONING THE WATER! NO WONDER ALL THOSE FISH WERE DEAD!

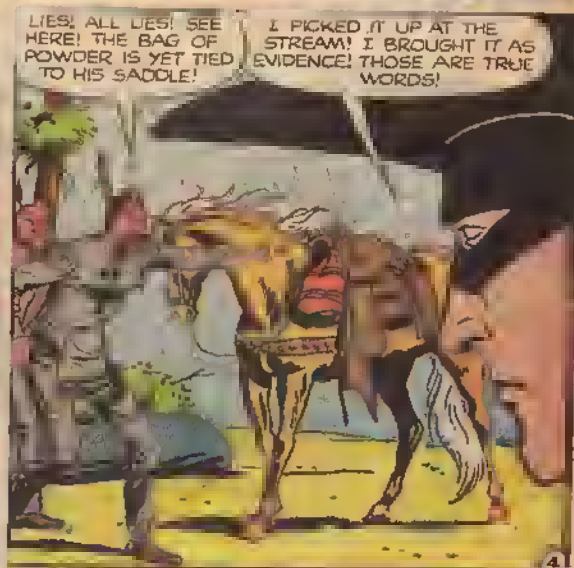
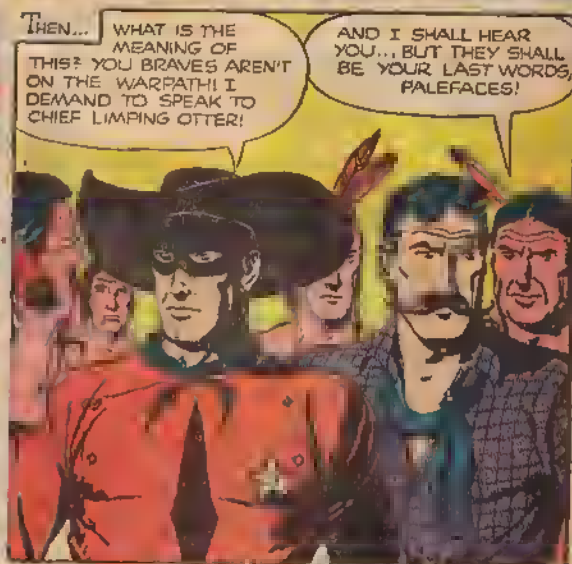
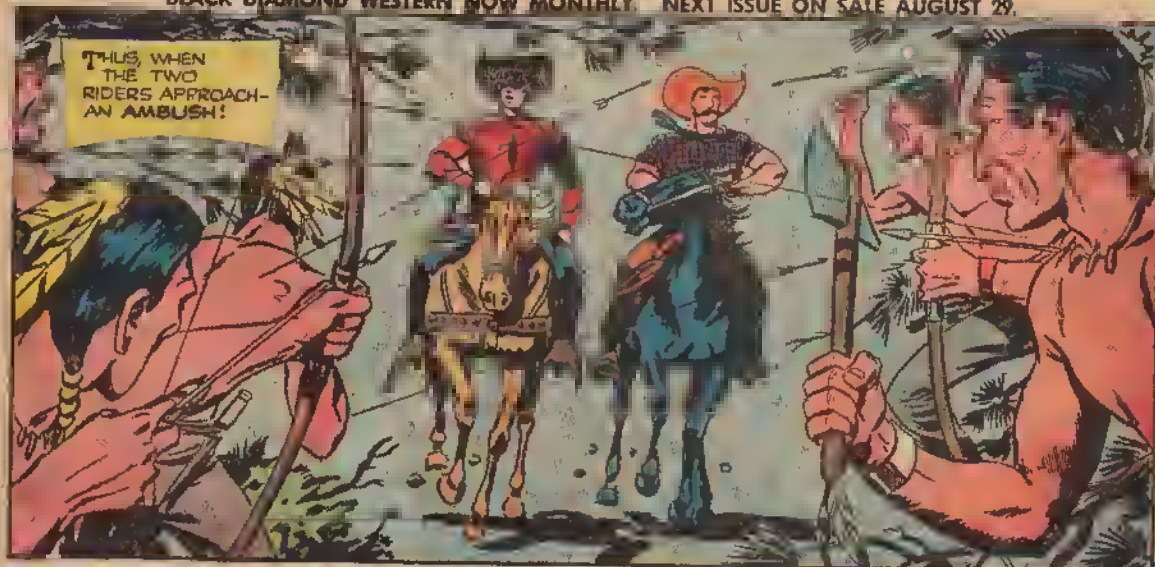
IT IS MOMENTS LATER, WHEN LONE BUFFALO RIDES INTO THE INDIAN VILLAGE... AND THERE BEGINS A CUNNING SCHEME...

WE WILL SAVE MY LIFE... AND DOON... THE PALEFACES...

I WAS RIDING BY THE RIVER... TWO PALEFACES WERE CASTING A STRANGE POWDER UPON THE WATERS... THE FISH ARE DYING... THE PALEFACES SAW ME... EVEN NOW THEY COME TO KILL ME...







LONE BUFFALO TOLD ONLY LAST NIGHT OF A VISION IN WHICH THE GREAT MYSTERY CAME TO HIM... AND SAID OUR LAND WOULD BE BLIGHTED! WE BELIEVED HIM NOT! FOOLS WE WERE! FOR NOW YOU COME TO BLIGHT THE LAND AND THE WATER! WHY? SPEAK!

I SAY AGAIN...IT WAS LONE BUFFALO WHO PUT THE POWDER IN THE WATER! AS A SERVANT OF THE GREAT WHITE FATHER, I GIVE YOU MY WORD ON THIS!

THE WORD OF THE PALEFACE IS LIKE THE HISS OF THE SNAKE...IT IS NOT TO BE TRUSTED, BUT...

...I HAVE HEARD MANY LEGENDS OF BLACK DIAMOND! THE LEGENDS SPEAK OF A GALLANT AND TRUE MAN! THAT IS WHAT PUZZLES ME NOW! BUT...COME TO THE VILLAGE! I SHALL MAKE MY DECISION THERE!



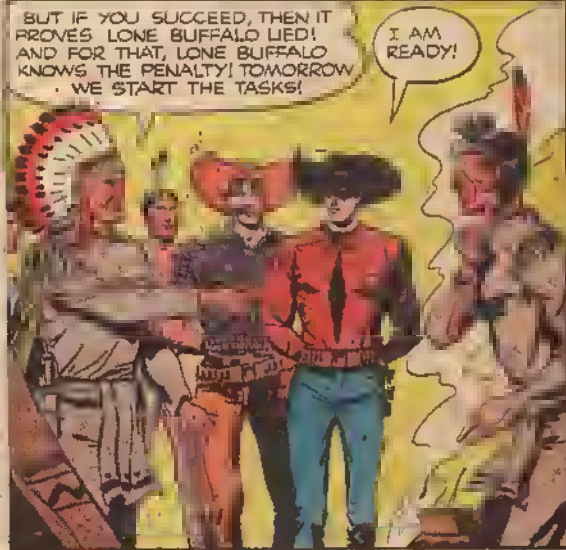
LATER...

IT IS THE CUSTOM OF THE BRAVE TO PROVE HIS INNOCENCE BY THE SEVEN TASKS OF THE MOON OF THE WILD CHERRY! IF YOU FAIL, IT SHALL BE THE DEATH OF THE THOUSAND ARROWS FOR YOU! IT SHALL BE YOUR GUILT...



BUT IF YOU SUCCEED, THEN IT PROVES LONE BUFFALO LIED! AND FOR THAT, LONE BUFFALO KNOWS THE PENALTY! TOMORROW WE START THE TASKS!

I AM READY!



THAT NIGHT, AS PRISONERS IN A TEEPEE...

OUR HORSES ARE NEARBY, DIAMOND! RELIAPON AND EL LOBO CAN OUTRUN THESE INDIAN PONIES! LET'S MAKE A BREAK!

NO, BUMPER! MORE GOES ON HERE THAN MEETS THE EYE! I WANT TO KNOW WHAT LONE BUFFALO IS UP TO! I AIM TO FIND OUT!



MEANWHILE, LONE BUFFALO STEALS OUT OF CAMP AND GALLOPS TO A SHACK IN THE HILLS...

LONE BUFFALO! WHAT DO YOU WANT?

THERE HAS BEEN TROUBLE! IT IS LIKE THE DARKENING CLOUDS OF A STORM HOVERING OVER US!





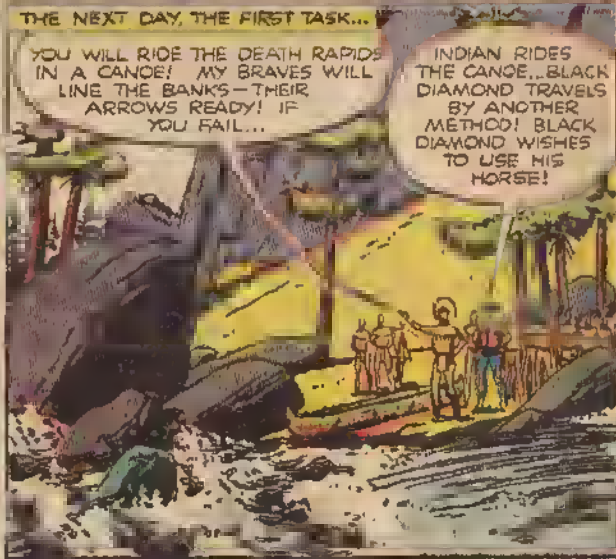
SOME STORY YOU TELL! SO BLACK DIAMOND SAW YOU WITH THE POWDER...BUT YOU GOT AWAY IN TIME TO PUT THE BLAME ON HIM! THAT COOKS HIS GOOSE! WE'LL MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T PASS THE TESTS!



THE NEXT DAY, THE FIRST TASK...

YOU WILL RIDE THE DEATH RAPIDS IN A CANOE! MY BRAVES WILL LINE THE BANKS—THEIR ARROWS READY! IF YOU FAIL...

INDIAN RIDES THE CANOE...BLACK DIAMOND TRAVELS BY ANOTHER METHOD! BLACK DIAMOND WISHES TO USE HIS HORSE!



SO IT SHALL BE!

LET'S GO, RELIAPON! YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO!

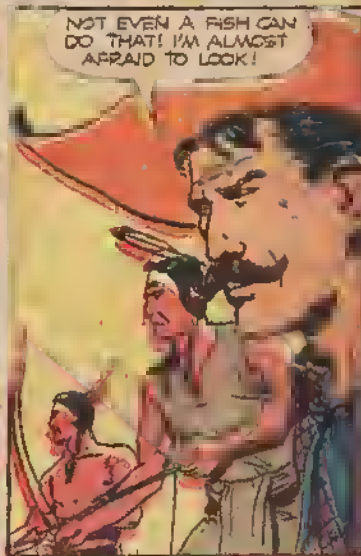


ALL IS READY...THEN THE GREAT HORSE TAKES TO THE WATERS...

STEADY, BOY! WATCH YOUR FOOTING! WE CAN'T MAKE ANY MISTAKES!



NOT EVEN A FISH CAN DO THAT! I'M ALMOST APPRAID TO LOOK!



UP, BOY, UP! STEADY DOES IT!



NOT MUCH FARTHER TO GO, RELIAPON! WATCH OUT FOR THAT BOULDER AHEAD!





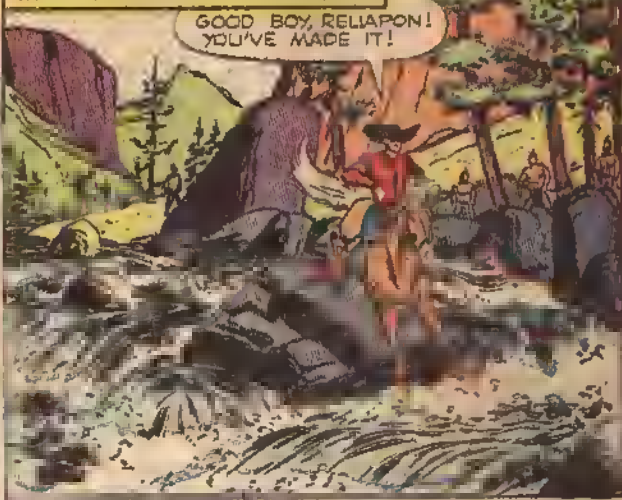
AT THAT PRECISE MOMENT, HIDDEN IN THE UNDER-BRUSH NEAR THE STREAM...

NO, YOU FOOL!  
NOT NOW—THIS  
ISN'T THE  
TIME!



THEN RELIAPON MAKES ONE TREMENDOUS LEAP OVER A RISING BOULDER WHICH HAD BROUGHT DESTRUCTION TO MANY A CANOE IN THE PAST...

GOOD BOY, RELIAPON!  
YOU'VE MADE IT!



...AND AS HE TROTS INTO THE SOFT-SWIRLING EDDIES BEYOND...THE RAPIDS CLEARED...

WE MADE  
IT! LISTEN TO THEM CHEER US!  
YOU DID WHAT NO CANOE  
COULD DO!



THE CHEERS  
OF VICTORY  
TODAY MAY CHANGE  
TO SHOUTS OF  
WRATH TOMORROW—  
IF YOU FAIL THE  
SECOND TASK! WE  
SHALL SEE!



THE SECOND DAY—THE SECOND TASK—OBTAINING A RARE FLOWER THAT GROWS ON THE SHEER DROPS OF SOARING MISTY MOUNTAIN...

WELL, BOY, IF THERE ARE ANY SLIP-UPS HERE  
THEY'LL HAVE TO PICK UP THE PIECES  
HUNDREDS OF FEET BELOW!



THEN...

OVER I GO FOR  
A FLOWER-PICKING  
JOB TO SAVE  
MY LIFE!



DOWN,  
DOWN,  
DESCENDS  
THE  
FAMED  
MARSHAL,  
CLOSER  
AND  
CLOSER  
TO THE  
COWEYED  
FLOWERS...







GOT 'EM!

BUT AT THAT MOMENT A NEW MENACE PRESENTS ITSELF! THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF BEGINS FRAYING THE ROPE...



THE ROPE! IT CAN BREAK AT ANY MOMENT!

RELIAPON, SENSING HIS MASTER'S PERIL, INCHES TOWARD THE EDGE, RELIEVING THE FRAYED SECTION...



GOOD BOY! I'LL PULL MYSELF UP!

AND SOMETIME LATER, DIAMOND PRESENTS CHIEF LIMPING OTTER WITH THE RARE FLOWERS...



AGAIN, SUCCESS! IT HAS BEEN MANY, MANY MOONS SINCE ANY BUT THE EAGLE, COULD REACH THE FLOWERS! AH, BUT FIVE MORE TASKS REMAIN!

...AND ON A NEARBY LEDGE OVERLOOKING THE SCENE...



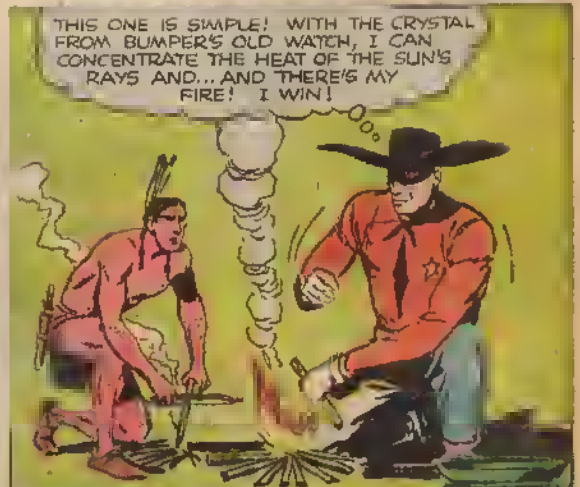
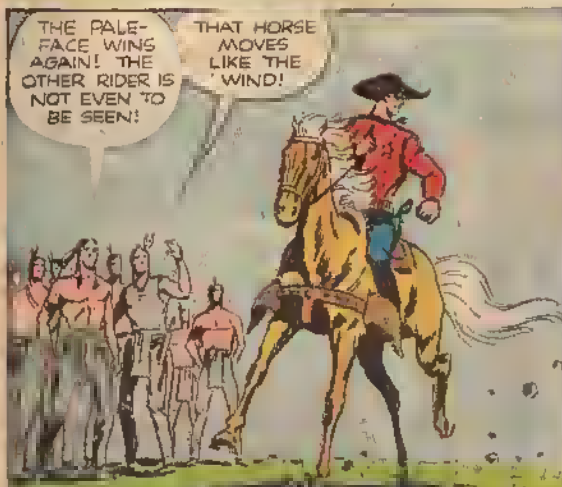
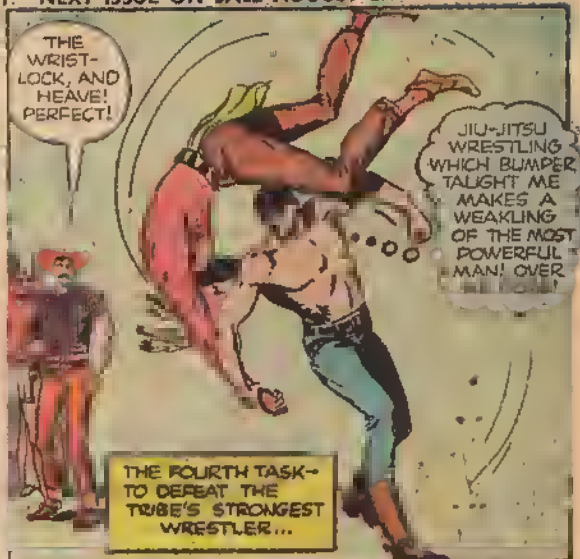
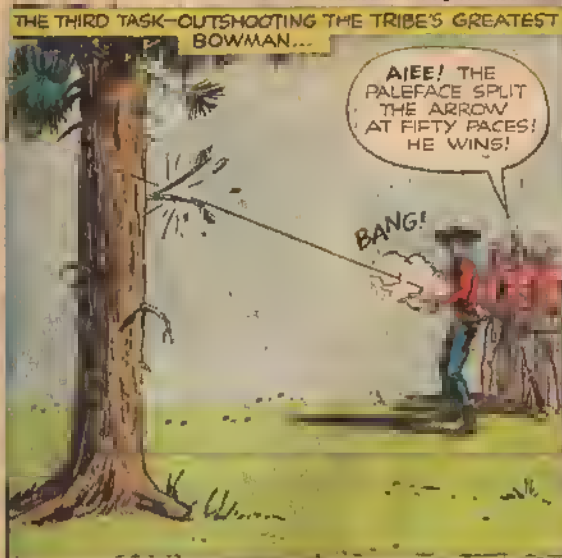
AGAIN VICTORY WAS HIS! TIME GROWS SHORT!

WE HAVE FIVE MORE DAYS...AND PLENTY OF CHANCES TO GET RID OF BLACK DIAMOND! BUT WE CAN'T SPOIL THINGS! WE MUST WAIT OUT OUR CHANCE!

WE'LL STICK TO HIS TRAIL, BUT OUT OF SIGHT! WE'LL WATCH HIS EVERY MOVE! AND WHEN THE TIME COMES, IT'S GOOD-BY TO THE LAWMAN!







THE FIFTH TASK-HE MUST OUTRIDE THE TRIBE'S SWIFTEST HORSEMAN-A TASK RELIAPON SETTLES VERY EASILY...

THE SIXTH TASK-BLACK DIAMOND MUST BRING FORTH FLAME FROM DRY WOOD QUICKER THAN THE TRIBE'S FASTEST FIRE MAKER!



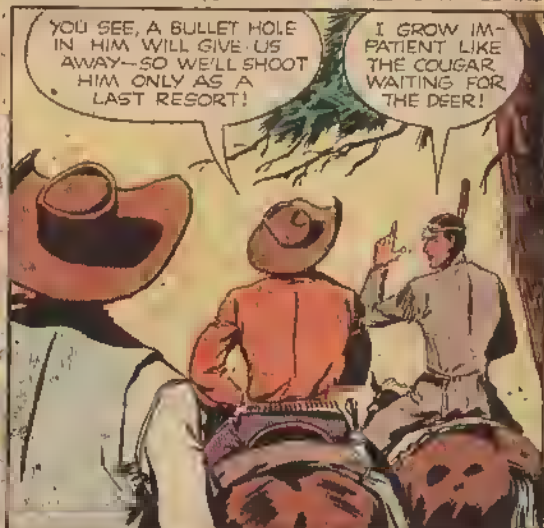


THUS, ALONE AND WEAPONLESS, DIAMOND RIDES INTO THE TIMBER COUNTRY, SEEKING A CREATURE WHICH—ONCE ENRAGED, KNOWS NO FIGHTING MASTER AMONG LIVING THINGS!

AND ALL THE WHILE, SINISTER CREATURES FOLLOW BEHIND...



I'LL SEARCH FOR HIM AMONG THE BERRY PATCHES AND AMONG THE CAVES THAT LINE THE CRAGGY HILLSIDES!



YOU SEE, A BULLET HOLE IN HIM WILL GIVE US AWAY—SO WE'LL SHOOT HIM ONLY AS A LAST RESORT!

I GROW IMPATIENT LIKE THE COUGAR WAITING FOR THE DEER!

NO MORE IMPATIENT THAN I AM! BUT WE'RE GOING TO TRY AND ARRANGE FOR THE GRIZZLY TO GET HIM! IF THE GRIZZLY MISSES—THEN WE MOVE IN!



MEANWHILE, AT A YAWNING BLACK CAVERN ENTRANCE, RELIAPON WHINES SOFTLY...



WHOA, BOY! SOMETHING'S IN THERE, EH? WE'LL HAVE A LOOK-SEE!

GRIZZLY TRACKS! WE'RE IN LUCK—OR ARE WE? IT WON'T BE LUCKY FOR EITHER OF US IF ANYTHING GOES WRONG!



CAREFUL, PREPARATIONS ARE COMPLETED AND...

GET READY TO MOVE IF ANYTHING GOES WRONG, RELIAPON! I'VE TOSSED SOME STONES IN THE ENTRANCE TO DISTURB HIM! HE'LL COME OUT ANY SECOND NOW!



AS THE MASKED MARSHAL PREDICTS, THE GREAT SNARLING GRIZZLY CHARGES OUT...



HERE GOES!



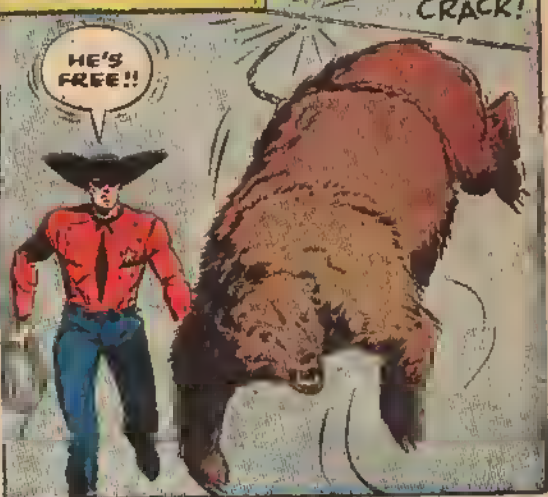
IN AN INSTANT THE RAGING TERROR IS DRAWN HELPLESSLY INTO MID-AIR...



NOW TO BIND HIS LEGS AND WE'LL DELIVER A REAL LIVE KICKING GRIZZLY TO LIMPING OTTER!

HERE'S THE FINISH—WE'VE GOT BLACK DIAMOND COLD!

A PERFECT SHOT SEVERS THE ROPE, AND THE CLAWING CREATURE DROPS...



CRACK!

HE'S FREE!!

RELIAPON'S UP TO SOMETHING—AND I CAN'T FIGURE OUT JUST WHAT! HE'S PURPOSELY BAITING THE BEAR! AND HE'S SMART ENOUGH NOT TO GET TOO CLOSE TO HIM!



NOW WHAT'S THE PALOMINO UP TO?



AT THAT MOMENT RELIAPON KICKS AT SOME STONES ON THE SLOPE, THEN LEAPS QUICKLY AWAY—AND THE GRIZZLY CHARGES IN, TOO LATE TO AVOID A LANDSLIDE!



WHROOOSH!!

THEN, EMERGING FROM AMID THE TREES...

WE CAME ALONG TO WITNESS EVERYTHING—AND LOOK WHO WE FOUND! IT WAS THESE CRITTERS SHOT THE ROPE! AND IS LIMPING OTTER MAD! HE'S AWARE OF THE WHOLE PLOT NOW!

DON'T LET THE INDIANS

TAKE US, BLACK DIAMOND, AND WE'LL CONFESS EVERYTHING! THE GOLD, THE POISON POWDER—EVERYTHING!



YOU HAVE PROVEN TO BE A GREAT WARRIOR—EVEN IN THE FACE OF A GRAVE ERROR! YOU MAY TAKE THE TWO PALEFACES BACK TO YOUR JUSTICE—WE WILL SETTLE WITH LONE BUFFALO IN OUR OWN WAY!

FAREWELL, LIMPING OTTER! AND MAY OUR TRAILS CROSS AGAIN! BUMPER AND I WILL RETURN BEFORE LONG!



THE END



# QUICK

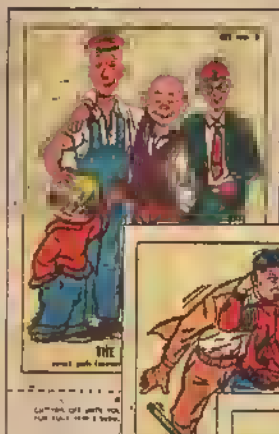
START YOUR COLLECTION **NOW!**  
GET A COMPLETE SET OF LEV GLEASON  
COMICS PICTURE TRADING CARDS!

IT'S  
**FREE!**

**NO** MONEY  
TO PAY!

SENT TO YOU  
WITHOUT COST!

IT'S EASY!

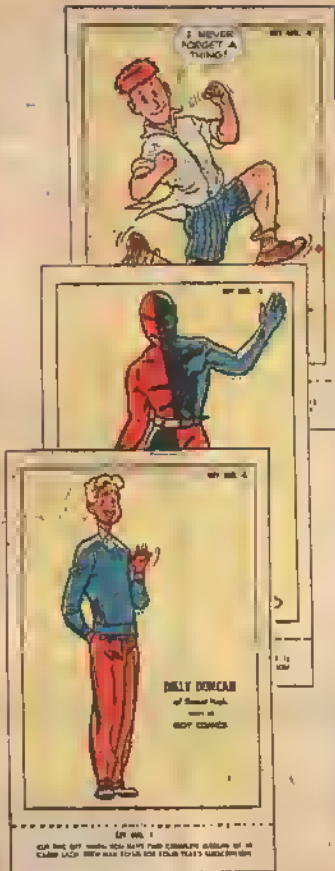


## HERE'S ALL YOU HAVE TO DO!

YOU WILL FIND A SPECIAL TRADING CARD COUPON ON THE TOP OF THE FIRST PAGE OF THIS MAGAZINE. UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, THESE COUPONS WILL BE FOUND IN ALL OF THE FOLLOWING LEV GLEASON COMICS: CRIME DOES NOT PAY, BOY, CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, DAREDEVIL AND BLACK DIAMOND.

JUST SEND US **TWO** OF THESE COUPONS AND WE WILL SEND YOU **FREE** ONE SET OF TRADING CARDS. YOU CAN PICK YOUR OWN SETS. THEY ARE LISTED IN THE BOX ON THE OPPOSITE PAGE. THERE ARE 5 SETS IN ALL. COLLECT AS MANY AS YOU LIKE. JUST REMEMBER TO SEND TWO COUPONS FOR EACH SET. TAKE THE COUPONS FROM ANY OF THE LEV GLEASON COMICS MENTIONED ABOVE (CRIME DOES NOT PAY, CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, DAREDEVIL, BOY AND BLACK DIAMOND). THEY WILL ALL HAVE COUPONS, WAITING FOR YOU, ON THE FIRST PAGE OF EVERY ISSUE.





**HERE ARE THE SETS**

When you send your coupons, choose the set or sets you want. Order them by number — but each set is **COMPLETE** and cards in each set **CANNOT** be changed. Order more sets as you want more cards.

**SET NO. 1**  
SLUGGER  
GRUESOME JONES  
IRON JAW

**SET NO. 2**  
WISE GUYS GROUP  
CRIMEBUSTER  
AND SQUEEKS  
RELIAPON

**SET NO. 3**  
CHIP GARDNER  
BUMPER  
CURLY

**SET NO. 4**  
SCARECROW  
DAREDEVIL  
DILLY DUNCAN

**SET NO. 5**  
BLACK DIAMOND AND RELIAPON  
SQUEEKS  
HOT ROCK FLANAGAN



WHEN YOU SEND YOUR COUPONS, PASTE THEM ON A POST CARD OR ATTACH THEM TO THE HANDY ORDER BLANK ON THIS PAGE. BE SURE TO ORDER YOUR SET BY NUMBER AND BE SURE TO PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS CLEARLY. SEND TO:

PICTURE SET DIVISION,  
LEV GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC.,  
114 E. 32nd STREET,  
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# BLACK DIAMOND

meets treacherous Blue Toad  
in "PASTURES OF DEATH"

BUMPER, GET UP! I DON'T LIKE THE WAY THOSE SHEEP ARE HEADING FOR OUR CAMP!

GOSH, BLACK DIAMOND, YOU'RE JITTERY TONIGHT! THOSE SHEEP ARE JUST A BUNCH OF DUMB EWES ATTRACTED BY THE FIRE! SHOO 'EM OFF AND LET'S GET BACK TO SLEEP!



FROM A HILLTOP OVERLOOKING RICH PASTURE LAND, THE BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER SURVEY A PEACEFUL SCENE...

SHEEP AND WOLVES DON'T MIX! NEITHER DO KILLERS AND THE BLACK DIAMOND! THE ONLY OUTCOME OF SUCH A COLLISION IS A BATTLE TO THE FINISH WITH THOUSANDS OF LIVES HANGING IN THE BALANCE! DID, AS BLOOD RAN IN STREAMS THROUGH THE PASTURES OF DEATH!

THAT'S HOW I LIKE TO SEE SIOUX INDIANS, DIAMOND! NOT ON THE WARPATH SCALPING SETTLERS OR WORS, BUT OUT RAISING THEIR CROPS, AND GRAZING THEIR SHEEP!

THEIR PEACEFULNESS DEPENDS ON US TOO, BUMPER! WHITE SETTLERS PUSHING INTO ALL CORNERS OF THE WEST ARE BOUND TO MAKE LIFE MISERABLE FOR THE INDIANS IF THEY DON'T DEAL WITH THEM FAIRLY...





TAKE STRONG BOW...THE SIOUX CHIEF WHO OWNS THIS FLOCK! HE GOT THIS GRAZING LAND IN EXCHANGE FOR HELPING U.S. TROOPS PACIFY WAR-LIKE TRIBES IN THE NORTHWEST! YOU WON'T SEE STRONG BOW REACH FOR HIS SCALPING KNIFE UNLESS HE'S WRONGED!

BLACK DIAMOND! WELCOME, FRIEND OF THE RED MAN! WHAT BRINGS YOU TO STRONG BOW'S TERRITORY?



I COME WITH A WARNING, STRONG BOW! MY FRIEND AND I HAVE JUST COME FROM THE SOUTH-KANSAS AND NEBRASKA! THE WHITE SETTLERS HAVE BEEN UNLUCKY! THEIR LANDS ARE SCORCHED BY THE SUN! THERE HAS BEEN NO RAIN! THEIR PASTURE LAND IS DRIED UP!

THIS IS UNFORTUNATE BUT HOW DOES THEIR BAD LUCK AFFECT STRONG BOW'S PEOPLE?



DOZENS OF DESPERATE SHEEP RAISERS ARE DRIVING THEIR SPRING FLOCKS NORTH IN SEARCH OF PASTURE LAND!

BUT THEY ARE WELCOME IN DAKOTA TERRITORY! THERE IS MUCH RICH LAND HERE AND NO LACK OF RAIN! SURELY THEY WILL FIND LAND, BLACK DIAMOND!

YES, STRONG BOW, IF THEY LOOK LONG FOR IT! BUT WHAT IF UNSCRUPULOUS MEN SEE YOUR LANDS AND DECIDE TO LOOK NO FURTHER?

THEY WOULDN'T DARE! THIS LAND WAS GIVEN TO ME BY TREATY! THE SIOUX EARNED THIS LAND WITH THEIR BLOOD SPILLED FOR PEACE!

NOW YOU KNOW WHY I'VE COME, STRONG BOW - TO ASK YOU NOT TO TAKE THE WARPATH IMMEDIATELY! THE QUARREL MAY NOT COME! THE SHEEP RAISERS MAY PUSH ON! BUT IF NOT, PROMISE ME YOU WILL BE PATIENT UNTIL WE ARE AGREED ON THE USE OF FORCE!

I TRUST YOU, BLACK DIAMOND, I PROMISE!



WE WILL FIGHT ANY ROBBERS WHO TRY TO STEAL OUR LANDS FROM US!



A WEEK LATER...

SO YOU LIKE THE LAND, BOYS? GOOD! I KNEW YOU WOULD! ANYBODY WOULD! BEST GRAZING LAND NORTH OF TEXAS! THINK THE SHEEP RAISERS WOULD LIKE IT?

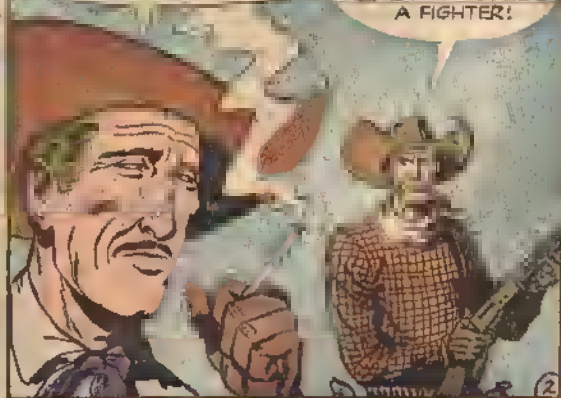
ARE YOU KIDDIN', STRYKER? THEIR TONGUES WILL HANG OUT WHEN THEY SEE IT!

THEY'LL KEEP HANGIN' TOO! THAT'S STRONG BOW'S TERRITORY! THE LAND AGENT CEDED IT TO HIM AND HIS TRIBE AS A REWARD FOR HELPIN' UNCLE SAM!



WELL THEN, WE'LL HAVE TO CHANGE THINGS AROUND A BIT - LIKE THAT LAND AGENT FOR INSTANCE! HE MIGHT DIE SUDDENLY! THEN THERE'LL BE NO LAND AGENT FOR THE STINKING SIOUX TO RUN TO FOR PROTECTION!

I GET YOU, STRYKER! OKAY, THE LAND AGENT GOES! WHAT ABOUT THEM SIOUX? THEY AIN'T GOIN' TO ROLL OVER AN' DIE FOR YOU! NOT STRONG BOW, LEAST WAYS! HE'S A FIGHTER!

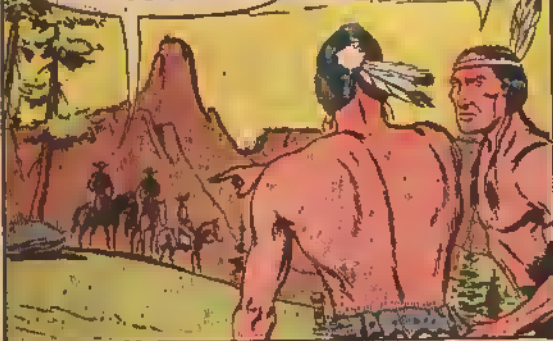




SURE, HE'S A FIGHTER! THAT'S GOOD FOR US! IT TAKES TWO TO MAKE A FIGHT! SO TROUBLE STARTS! WHITE MEN GET KILLED! THE SHEEP RAISERS DON'T WORRY ABOUT LAW WHEN THEY SEE THEIR FAMILIES AND PALS SHOT DEAD ABOUT THEM! AN ALL-OUT WAR BREAKS OUT!

LOOK! PALE-FACES!

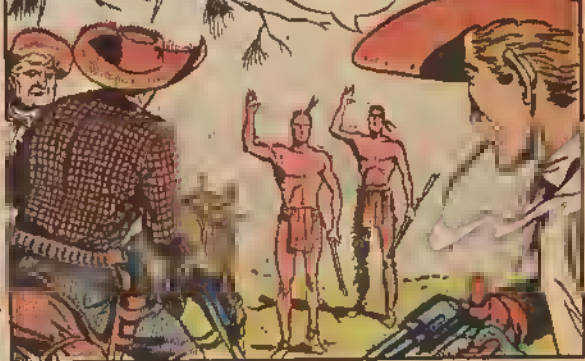
COME! WE ASK THEM WHAT THEY DO ON OUR LAND!



STRYKER! SIOUX INDIANS! THEY SPOTTED US!

THEY DON'T MEAN NO HARM! THEY GOT THEIR HANDS OUT IN PEACE GREETIN'!

THAT'S TOO BAD FOR THEM! THEY'D HAVE BEEN SMARTER TO KEEP THEIR HANDS ON THEIR GUNS! HERE'S OUR CHANCE TO MAKE TROUBLE, BOYS! COUPLE OF DEAD INJUNS WILL LIGHT A BONFIRE UNDER STRONG BOW'S TAIL!



GREETINGS, PALEFACES! THIS IS STRONG BOW'S TERRITORY! STRONG BOWS FLOCKS GRAZE HERE! DO YOU COME TO VISIT US?

NOT EXACTLY, REDSKIN! WE COME TO STAY!

TO STAY? I DO NOT UNDERSTAND THIS...



MAYBE THIS WILL MAKE IT CLEARER!...LET 'EM HAVE IT, BOYS!

OHhhh!

BANG

EEEE!



LISTEN! GUN SHOTS IN THE DISTANCE!

MIGHT BE A HUNTING PARTY! MIGHT BE THE TROUBLE I WAS EXPECTING! COME ON, BUMPER! FOLLOW US, STRONG BOW!

BANG! BANG!



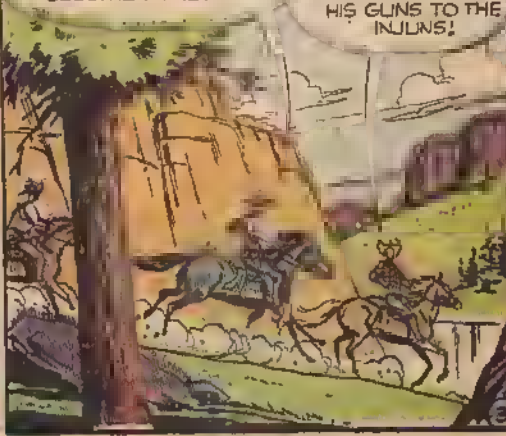
BEAT IT, BOYS! THOSE SHOTS CARRIED! WHEN THE INJUNS GET HERE, THEY MUST THINK THAT "ASSASSINS UNKNOWN" KILLED THEIR PALS! WHITE, SHEEP-RAISING ASSASSINS! BETWEEN THE GUNS WE'LL SELL AND THE LAND WE'LL RENT TO SHEEP RAISERS, WE'LL PICK UP ENOUGH PIECES TO RAISE SHEEP OURSELVES!

YOU THINK TOO FAST FOR ME, STRYKER! YOU GOT ME GOIN' ROUND IN CIRCLES... BREAK IT DOWN!



WE KILL THE LAND AGENT BUT NOT BEFORE HE GIVES ME THE LAND! THEN I PLAY RED OFF AGAINST WHITE! I TELL LIES! IN THE END, LAND, SHEEP AND MONEY—ALL BECOME MINE!

GREAT! I LIKE THE SETUP! DEGRANCHE, HE WON'T LIKE IT! DEGRANCHE STAKED YOU TO THIS TRIP TO SELL HIS GUNS TO THE INJUNS!



AS STRYKER AND HIS BOYS PAUSE, FAR FROM THE MURDER SCENE...

WHO SAYS I WOULDN'T SELL 'EM! ONLY DEGRANCHE WON'T COLLECT! DEGRANCHE WON'T STOP THE NOBODY WILL!

YOU'RE THE BOSS, STRYKER! YOU CALL THE SHOTS! WE'LL FIRE 'EM!

MEANWHILE...

THIS IS WHERE SHOTS COME FROM! WHITE MEN MURDER MY BRAVES!

HERE'S A STRANGE CLUE—AN ENGLISH CIGARETTE WITH TURKISH TOBACCO! THIS KILLER HAS FANCY TASTE AND DOESN'T ROLL HIS OWN! AND HERE'S ANOTHER STRANGE —A HORSESHOE PRINT FORMING A CORKSCREW CURL AT BOTH ENDS!

THIS POLECAT HAS VERY REFINED TASTE! PROBABLY EXCUSES HIMSELF BEFORE HE PULLS THE TRIGGER!

I HELP BLACK DIAMOND FIND THE KILLERS! YES?

NO, STRONG BOW! THESE OUTLAWS WILL RETURN! ARM YOURSELVES TO PROTECT YOUR LANDS AND FLOCKS! TH TO YOUR LAND AGENT!



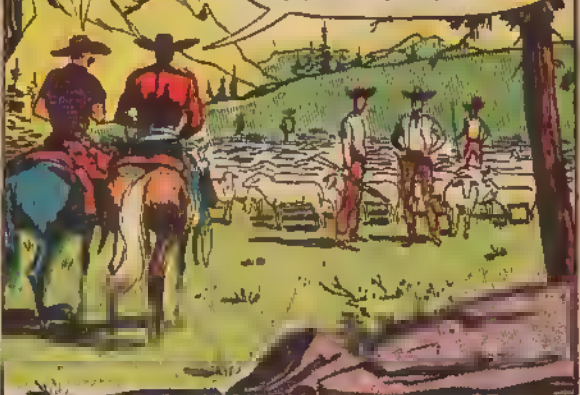
TELL HIM WHAT HAPPENED! TELL HIM YOU FEAR THE ADVANCING SHEEPHERDERS FROM THE SOUTH! HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO PREVENT MORE BLOODSHED!

I WILL FOLLOW YOUR ADVICE, FRIEND OF MY PEOPLE! MAY THE GREAT SPIRIT GUIDE YOU ALONG THE TRAIL TO THE MURDERER OF STRONG BOW'S PEOPLE!



THERE THEY ARE NOW, DIAMOND! THE WHOLE STARVING FLOCK OF 'EM! IT'S A WONDER THOSE SHEEP HAVE THE STRENGTH TO KEEP GOING!

THEIR HERDERS BETTER NOT PICK ON STRONG BOW'S PASTURE LAND OR A BLOODY INCIDENT CAN PUT ALL THE SIOUX BRAVES ON THE WAR PATH! ALL REDSKINS LIKE BLUE TOAD ARE LOOKING FOR IS AN EXCUSE!



NOPE, BLACK DIAMOND! AIN'T RUN ACROSS NO MAN YET WHO BOUGHT HIS BUTTS ALREADY ROLLED! MOST OF US ARE SO BROKE WE AIN'T EVEN GOT THE PRICE OF GREEN ROLLIN' TOBACCO!

MORE IMPORTANT THAN CIGARETTES, DID YOU SEE ANY GRAZIN' LAND, BLACK DIAMOND?

PLENTY OF IT FURTHER NORTH, JUST KEEP DRIVING FIFTY MILES MORE, PAST STRONG BOW'S PASTURE LAND...



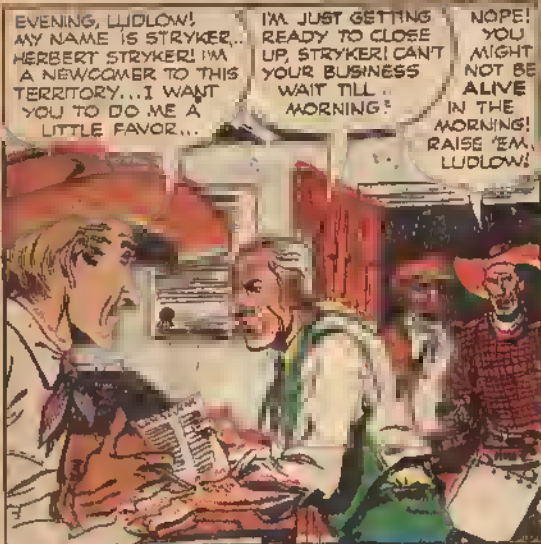
BUT SEVERAL HOURS LATER, OUTSIDE LAND AGENT LUDLOW'S OFFICE...

SNEAK AROUND TO THE BACK ENTRANCE AND TAKE LUDLOW BY SURPRISE! I WANT HIM TO WRITE A NICE LONG LEGAL LAND DOCUMENT!

GOTCHA, STRYKER! LET'S GO!







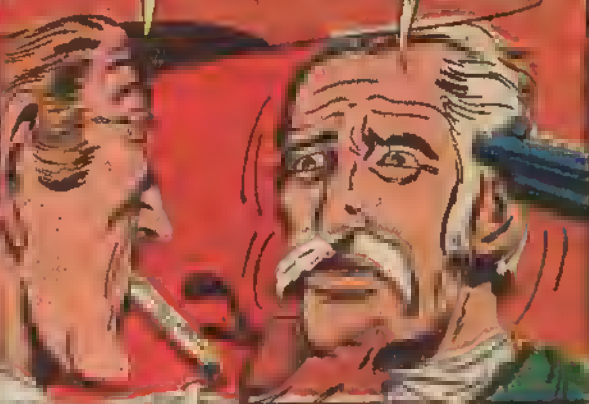
EVENING, LUDLOW!  
MY NAME IS STRYKER...  
HERBERT STRYKER! I'M  
A NEWCOMER TO THIS  
TERRITORY... I WANT  
YOU TO DO ME A  
LITTLE FAVOR...

I'M JUST GETTING  
READY TO CLOSE  
UP, STRYKER! CAN'T  
YOUR BUSINESS  
WAIT TILL  
MORNING?

NOPE!  
YOU  
MIGHT  
NOT BE  
ALIVE  
IN THE  
MORNING!  
RAISE 'EM,  
LUDLOW!

LISTEN, LUDLOW! WHETHER  
YOU LIVE OR NOT DEPENDS  
ON A MESSAGE! WHAT GOES  
IN THAT MESSAGE DEPENDS  
ON YOU!

BUT WHAT DO  
YOU WANT ME  
TO DO? I DON'T  
UNDERSTAND... I  
HAVE NO MONEY  
HERE!



I DON'T WANT MONEY; I WANT  
LAND - STRONG BOW'S LAND!  
YOU'RE GOING TO WRITE A LETTER  
TO THE INDIAN AGENT AT FORT  
YAVO... TELLING HIM HOW YOU'D  
DISCOVERED THAT STRONG BOW  
WAS SECRETLY KILLING WHITE  
MEN AND STEALING THEIR  
SHEEP!

B...BUT THIS IS  
CRIMINAL! STRONG  
BOW IS A PEACEFUL  
INDIAN! LIES LIKE THAT  
WILL PUT THE SIOUX  
ON THE WARPATH!

WOULD YOU RATHER  
DIE? WRITE!!



... SINCE STRONG  
BOW'S WAR-LIKE  
ACTIONS INVALI-  
DATE THE TERMS  
OF THIS LAND  
TREATY, I HEREBY  
REVOKE STRONG  
BOW'S RIGHTS  
AND SELL HIS  
LAND RIGHTS TO  
H. STRYKER FOR  
\$20,000! SIGNED,

LAND AGENT

OKAY, TED! WE  
GOT WHAT WE  
WANT! KILL  
HIM!



B...BUT YOU  
PROMISED...

SO WE DON'T  
KEEP OUR  
PROMISES!  
TELL THE SHERIFF!

OKAY, LUDLOW'S  
DEAD! WHAT  
NOW?

BURN THE PLACE  
DOWN! MAKE IT  
LOOK LIKE IT WAS  
ROBBED! IT WILL BE,  
YOU KNOW, AFTER  
I OPEN THIS  
SAFE!



SHE'S BURNING  
NICELY! NOT EVEN  
THIS RAIN WILL  
PUT IT OUT...  
WHAT NEXT,  
STRYKER?

WATTA YA MEAN...  
WHAT NEXT? AIN'T  
WE GOING TO REST?  
WE BEEN GOIN' LIKE  
THE DEVIL FOR TWENTY  
FOUR HOURS! I'M  
BUSHED!

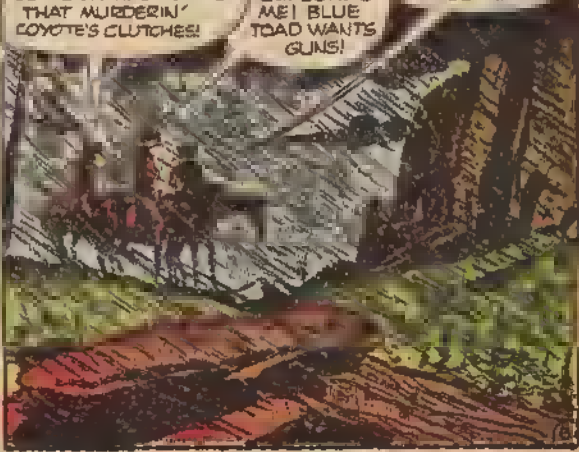
UNBUSH YOUR  
SELF THEN, RED!  
WE'RE RIDING  
TO BLUE  
TOAD'S  
VILLAGE!



THAT DOES IT! I'M  
GOIN' TO FIND MYSELF  
A NICE GALLOW'S TO  
HANG MYSELF ON! ANY  
THING WOULD BE  
BETTER'N WALKIN' INTO  
THAT MURDERIN'  
COYOTE'S CLUTCHES!

DON'T BE A  
FOOL! BLUE  
TOAD'S A  
FRIEND OF  
MINE! HE'S  
EXPECTING  
ME! BLUE  
TOAD WANTS  
GUNS!

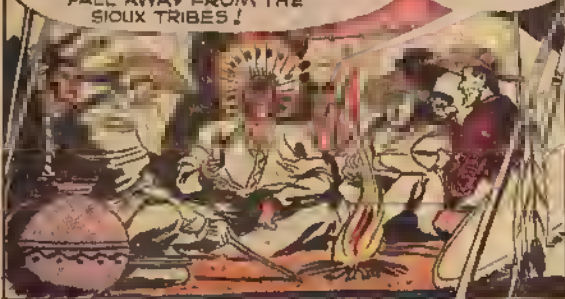
COME ON, YOU  
LOCOWEED! ANY  
TEPEE IS BETTER'N  
WANGIN' OUT HERE  
CATCHING  
PNEUMONIA!



THREE HOURS LATER IN BLUE TOAD'S VILLAGE---

AFTER MY VISIT, BLUE TOAD, YOU WILL BE THE LEADER OF A OOZEN MASSACRES! I HAVE A SCHEME WHERE YOU CAN DRAW OTHER TRIBES INTO YOUR ARMY! FIRST YOU'LL GET ENOUGH AMMUNITION TO EQUIP TWO ARMIES! SECOND, YOUR BRAVES WILL ATTACK THE STARVED SHEEP RAISERS DISGUISED AS STRONG BOWS WARRIORS! AS THE PALE- FACES STRIKE BACK AGAINST STRONG BOW, PEACE WILL FALL AWAY FROM THE SIOUX TRIBES!

AYE! THEY WILL FLOCK TO MY VILLAGE, BEGGING FOR GUNS AND LEADERSHIP! WHAT MUST I PAY FOR THESE GUYS, STRYKER?



THIS WILL TICKLE YOU, BLUE TOAD! I'LL WHISPER THE PRICE IN YOUR EAR! PSSHSSSS--

SO? HA/HA! YOU ARE A DEVIL/HA/HA! MY SIDES ARE SPLITTING! STRYKER, YOU COULD SELL WATER TO THE RAIN! HO! HO! HO! I CAN JUST SEE DEGRANCHES FACE! HA/HA!



MANY MILES AWAY, THE NEXT DAY IN THE SHEEP MEN'S CAMP...

TO YOUR HORSES! I FOUND A PASTURE BIG ENOUGH TO FEED ALL OUR HERDS! THERE'S ONLY A FEW INJUNS 'GRAZIN' SHEEP ON IT!

WELL, WHAT'RE WE WAITIN' FOR? LET'S GRAB IT!

HERE IT COMES, BUMPER!

STAY WHERE YOU ARE! THAT PASTURE LAND BELONGS TO THE PEACEFUL SIOUX! YOU MUSTN'T GRAB IT! I'LL EXPLAIN--



I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN, BLACK DIAMOND. IF WE GO IN, KILLIN' STRONG BOW'S PEOPLE FOR THAT LAND, WE'LL TOUCH OFF AN INJUN WAR THAT MIGHT WIPE US OUT!

RIGHT! WE MUST KEEP THE SIOUX HAPPY! WE'VE GOT TO KEEP STRONG BOW ON THE SIDE OF PEACE!

BESIDES, 50 MILES BEYOND STRONG BOW'S TERRITORY THERE'S PLENTY OF GOOD GRAZING LAND!



THEY WON'T MAKE TROUBLE, DIAMOND! THEY'RE DESPERATE TO SAVE THEIR FLOCKS, SURE... BUT NOT OVER SOMEBODY ELSE'S DEAD BODY!

YOU'RE RIGHT, BUMPER! THEY'RE GOOD LAW-ABIDING SETTLERS! WE'RE SAFE TO LEAVE THEM AND GO POLE-CAT HUNTING ELSEWHERE! COME ON! WE'LL LOOK UP THE LAND AGENT HE MIGHT HAVE A LINE ON--

SEVERAL HOURS LATER--

STRONG BOW! YOU HERE TOO? WHAT HAPPENED?

KILLERS CAME LAST NIGHT! KILL LAND AGENT BURN HIS OFFICE! LOOK AT HOOFPRINTS!



THE SAME CORKSCREW CURL! AND AGAIN THREE RIDERS!

ALSO SAME CIGARETTES YOU FINO YESTERDAY NEAR BOOY OF MY BRAVES! KILLER WHO KILL INJUN ALSO KILL WHITE MAN! LUDLOW MY FRIEND!





YES, STRONG BOW!  
ELABORATE MURDERS  
LIKE THESE ARE A  
SMOKE SIGNAL  
OF DANGER! GO  
BACK TO YOUR  
HERDS WHILE I  
OVERTAKE THE  
MAN WITH THE  
ENGLISH  
CIGARETTE!

RIDE FAST, MY  
FRIEND. MANY  
INNOCENTS MAY  
DIE BEFORE THE  
DEVILS WHO MADE  
THOSE HOOF PRINTS  
ARE TRAMPLED  
INTO THE DUST!



SHORTLY AFTER, NOT FAR AWAY...

GREETINGS, DEGRANCHE!  
I HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL!  
BLUE TOAD WILL BUY  
YOUR ENTIRE STOCK  
OF GUNS!

BUT WHAT  
WILL HE  
PAY WITH?  
FURS ALONE  
CAN'T PAY FOR  
THESE  
RIFLES!

DO YOU SEE  
THAT COVERED  
WAGON? MY  
PAYMENT  
IS UNDER  
THESE COVERS!  
BUT FIRST  
LET ME SEE YOUR  
MERCHANDISE!



AH- THESE  
ARE FINE  
RIFLES.  
DEGRANCHE!  
TELL YOUR  
MEN TO  
UNCOVER  
MY WAGON  
AND COLLECT  
THE RICHES  
I BRING  
IN EXCHANGE!

IT MUST  
BE AT  
LEAST  
GOLD OR  
SILVER!  
WHAT  
ELSE  
CAN PAY  
FOR A FORTUNE  
IN GUNS!

WAIT  
AND SEE,  
DEGRANCHE!  
RELAX AND  
HAVE A GOOD  
CIGARETTE  
IMPORTED  
FROM  
ENGLAND!



BUT AS DEGRANCHE'S  
MEN LIFT THE COVER...

INJUNS!  
IT'S A  
TRAP!

DEATH TO  
THE PALEFACE  
GUN DEALERS!



B-BUT STRYKER--  
YOU'RE ON  
MY PAYROLL!  
I NEVER  
CHEATED  
YOU! WHY  
DID YOU  
TRICK ME?  
UGHHH!

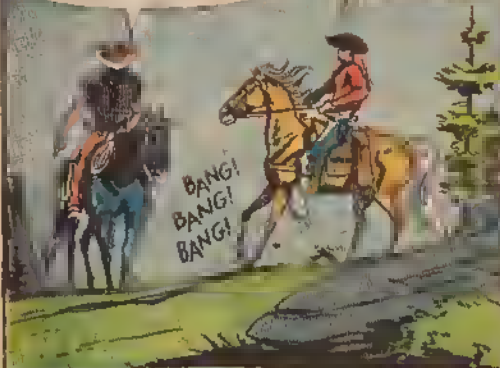
I'M THROUGH  
SELLING GUNS  
FOR YOU,  
DEGRANCHE!  
I'M AFTER MY  
BIG KILL!



MEANWHILE, AT THAT MOMENT--

YOU'RE RIGHT, BOB! THE  
KILLER'S TRAIL LEADS  
STRAIGHT TO CHIEF BLUE  
TOAD'S CAMP! EITHER  
THEY'RE IN CAHOOTS WITH  
THE OLD CUTTHROAT  
OR THEY'RE PLUMB  
CRAZY!

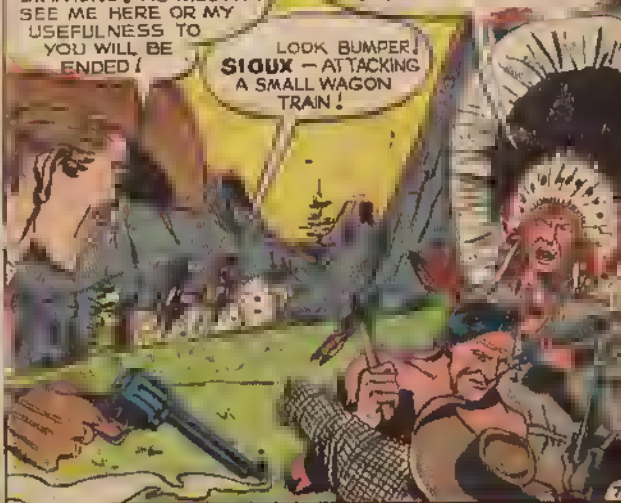
RIFLE SHOTS!  
IT MIGHT BE  
THEM. COME ON,  
BUMPER, WE'LL  
FOLLOW THOSE  
ECHOES RIGHT  
BACK TO  
THEIR GUN  
BARRELS!



GREAT GUNS, BLUE  
TOAD. THAT'S BLACK  
DIAMOND. HE MUSTN'T  
SEE ME HERE OR MY  
USEFULNESS TO  
YOU WILL BE  
ENDED!

THEN RUN, MY BRAVES  
WILL TAKE CARE OF THEM!  
ONLY TWO PALEFACES!

LOOK BUMPER!  
SIOUX - ATTACKING  
A SMALL WAGON  
TRAIN!





IT'S OUR LIVES OR THEIRS, BUMPER! LET 'EM HAVE IT!

THEY DON'T WANT MUCH OF IT, DIAMOND! THEY'RE BREAKING ALREADY!

EH!! THEY ARE EVIL SPIRITS! EVERY BULLET IS DEADLY! RUN!

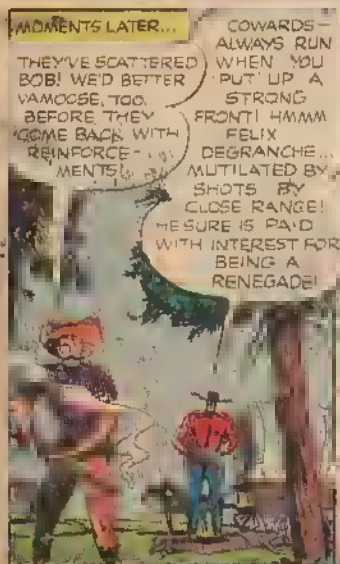
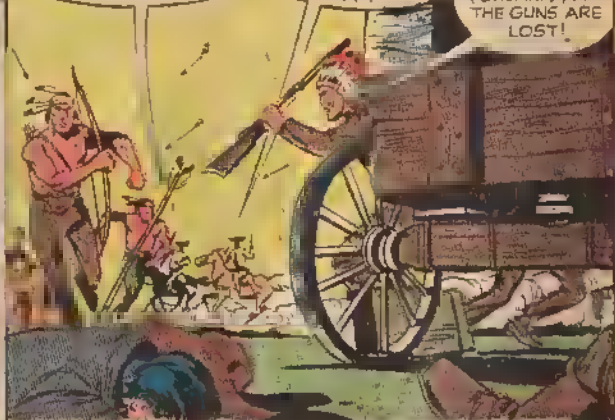
BANG!

BANG!

THIS IS NO WAGON TRAIN, BLACK DIAMOND! THEY'RE ALL LOADED WITH RIFLES AND AMMUNITION! THESE SIOUX DOUBLE-CROSSED THEIR GUN DEALER!

THE BLACK-BITING SNAKES BELONGED TO BLUE TOAD'S TRIBE! WE'LL GIVE 'EM BULLETS BUT NOT THE WAY THEY'LL LIKE 'EM!

COWARDS! GO BACK! FIGHT, YELLOW-BELLY TURTLES! (GROAN!) AH! THE GUNS ARE LOST!



MOMENTS LATER...

THEY'VE SCATTERED BOB! WE'D BETTER VAMOOSE, TOO, BEFORE THEY COME BACK WITH REINFORCEMENTS!

COWARDS - ALWAYS RUN WHEN YOU PUT UP A STRONG FRONT! HMMM FELIX DEGRANCHE MUTILATED BY SHOTS BY CLOSE RANGE! HE SURE IS PAID WITH INTEREST FOR BEING A RENEGADE!

OUR OLD KILLER FRIENDS WERE HERE TOO, HELPING BLUE TOAD OUT! CORCSREW ENDS TO THESE HORSE-SHOE PRINTS AND THE TURKISH CIGARETTES!

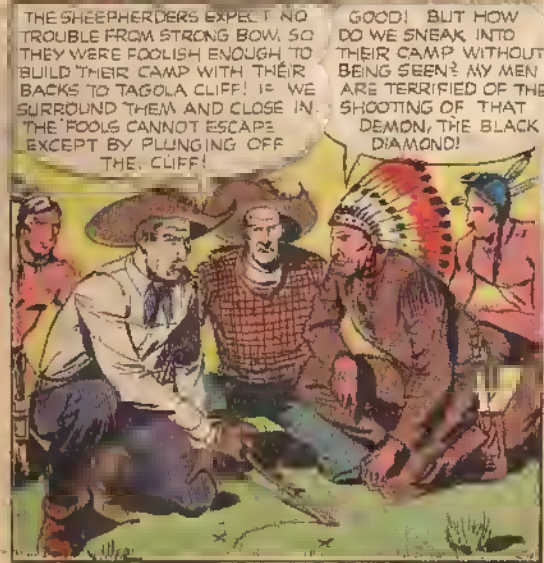
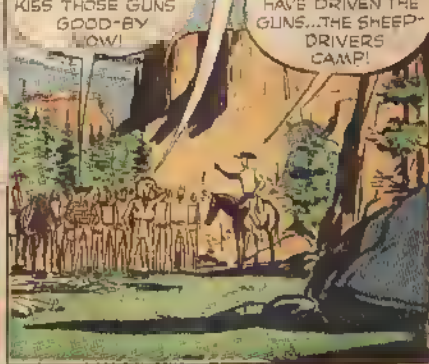
I SEE 'EM, BUMPER! I ALSO SEE HOW WE CAN PULL THESE GUNS OUT OF BLUE TOAD'S HANDS! IM LINKING THE WAGONS TANDEM STYLE! WITH ANY KIND OF LUCK, WE'LL HAVE 'EM IN THE SHEEP DRIVER'S CAMP BY NIGHT-FALL!

SO, AS THE SUN BEGINS TO SINK BELOW THE HORIZON...

THE BLACK DIAMOND OUT-SMARTED US! HE TIED THEM WAGONS UP TANDEM-LIKE, AND DROVE 'EM OFF! YOU CAN KISS THOSE GUNS GOOD-BY NOW!

YOU HEAR THAT, STRYKER? OUR PLANS ARE RUINED!

NOT QUITE, BLUE TOAD! THERE'S ONLY ONE PLACE NEAR ENOUGH FOR THE BLACK DIAMOND TO HAVE DRIVEN THE GUNS...THE SHEEP-DRIVERS CAMP!



THE SHEEPHERDERS EXPECT NO TROUBLE FROM STRONG BOW, SO THEY WERE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO BUILD THEIR CAMP WITH THEIR BACKS TO TAGOLA CLIFF! IF WE SURROUND THEM AND CLOSE IN THE FOOLS CANNOT ESCAPE EXCEPT BY PLUNGING OFF THE CLIFF!

GOOD! BUT HOW DO WE SNEAK INTO THEIR CAMP WITHOUT BEING SEEN? MY MEN ARE TERRIFIED OF THE SHOOTING OF THAT DEMON, THE BLACK DIAMOND!

DON'T WORRY YOUR MEN WILL NOT BE SEEN UNTIL IT IS TOO LATE! BUT THIS IS ONLY PART OF MY PLAN! WHILE THE WAGONS ARE BEING SEIZED ANOTHER FORCE DISGUISED AS STRONG BOW'S TRIBESMEN WILL FALL UPON THE PALEFACE RIDING HERD!

EXCELLENT! THE PALEFACE SURVIVORS - IF ANY - WILL BLAME STRONG BOW! THE WHITES WILL THEN ATTACK STRONG BOW'S TRIBE AND DRIVE THE PEACE-LOVERS INTO MY WAR CAMP! MY ARMY WILL SWELL LIKE THE SPRING FLOOD!





MEANWHILE, I WILL GO BACK TO TOWN AND PUT IN MY CLAIM FOR STRONG BOW'S TERRITORY! I SHALL HAVE MY LAND AND YOU SHALL HAVE YOUR INDIAN ARMY TO SWEEP THE STUPID PIONEERS INTO THE MISSISSIPPI!

MAY MANITOU SMILE ON OUR DEEDS TONIGHT! GATHER AROUND BRVES! OUR PALEFACE FRIEND WILL SHOW YOU HOW TO BECOME SHEEP INSTEAD OF WOLVES!

THAT NIGHT IN THE SHEEP MEN'S CAMP...

IN CASE OF ATTACK, MOST OF YOU WILL ENCAMP NEAR THE HEAD OF THE HERD! BUMPER AND I AND A FEW VOLUNTEERS WILL SPEND THE NIGHT NEAR THE AMMUNITION WAGONS.

SO IF THE REDSKINS DO ATTACK, THEY'LL HAVE TWO FORCES TO RECKON WITH INSTEAD OF CLOSING A TRAP.

HOURS LATER...AS THE MOON RISES HIGH ABOVE THE RESTLESS FLOCKS...

LOOK! THE SHEEP BEGIN TO MOVE FORWARD! SOON THEY WILL BE UPON THE AMMUNITION WAGONS!

THAT WILL BE OUR SIGNAL TO ATTACK THESE PALEFACES! HMM...STRYKER WILL COLLECT A PRICELESS REWARD FOR HIS ASSISTANCE! LOOK AT THOSE SHEEP! THOUSANDS OF THEM GRAZING NEAR TAGOLA CLIFF!



WAIT FOR MY SIGNAL! WE CANNOT BETRAY OUR PRESENCE UNTIL WE ARE UPON THEM!

HAAAA...SOMETHING'S BEEN WRONG WITH THE HERD FOR THE PAST HOUR! THEY'RE UNUSUALLY RESTLESS...GASP! A KNIFE GLEAM! SINCE WHEN DO WOLVES OR SHEEP CARRY KNIVES?

BUMPER! WAKE UP QUICKLY!



I'VE GOT IT! WE MAKE A DASH FOR THE HORSES AND START STAMPEDING THE SHEEP TOWARD TAGOLA CLIFF!

RIGHT! WE'LL LOSE HUNDREDS OF SHEEP, BUT IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE OUR NECKS, WHILE SLITTING BLUE TOADS!

OKAY, BLACK DIAMOND, LET'S GO!



FIRE YOUR GUNS IN THE AIR! MAKE ALL THE NOISE YOU CAN! MAKE THE HERD BEAR LEFT!

RIGHT! YIPPI! YIPPEEE!

W! WHAT ARE THEY DOING? WHY ARE THEY SCREAMING?

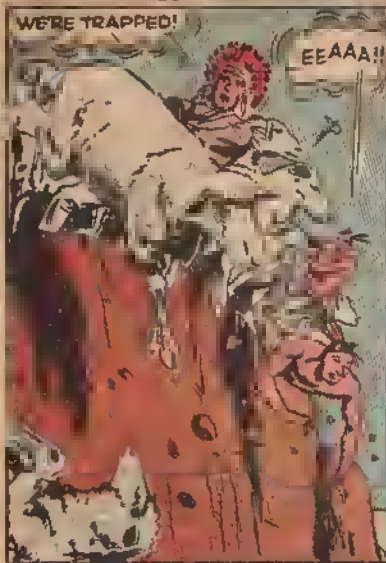


THE SHEEP THEY STAMPEDE! RUN! RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!

THERE IS NOWHERE TO RUN! THE SHEEP ARE ALL AROUND US!

T.THEY ARE PUSHING US TOWARD TAGOLA CLIFF! YIIIIII!





WE'RE TRAPPED!

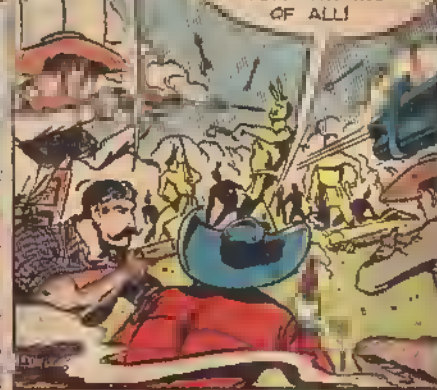
EEAAA!!

THEY'RE DONE FOR, DIAMOND! ANY INJUN THAT DIDN'T GO OFF TAGOLA CLIFF WAS TRAMPLED TO DEATH!

GOOD RIDDANCE! NOW MAKE TRACKS FOR THE OTHER CAMP! THEY'LL NEED HELP IF THERE'S A SUDDEN ATTACK FROM BEHIND!

WE'RE JUST IN TIME, DIAMOND! THAT STAMPEDE MADE THESE CRITTERS JUMP THE GUN!

GIVE 'EM BLUE BLAZES, BUT I WANT ONE, PRISONER! THESE BUZZARDS KNOW THE IDENTITY OF THE ENGLISH CIGARETTE SMOKING LOUSE WHO STARTED ALL THIS TROUBLE! I WANT HIM MOST OF ALL!



THE NEXT MORNING, AT THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE...

THERE IT IS, SHERIFF... ALL LEGAL AND PROPER! STRONG BOW'S TERRITORY IS NOW MINE, BOUGHT FOR \$20,000! TOO BAD LUDLOW DIED BEFORE HE COULD HANDLE THIS TRANSACTION HIMSELF—NOW I WANT STRONG BOW TO GET OFF MY PROPERTY!

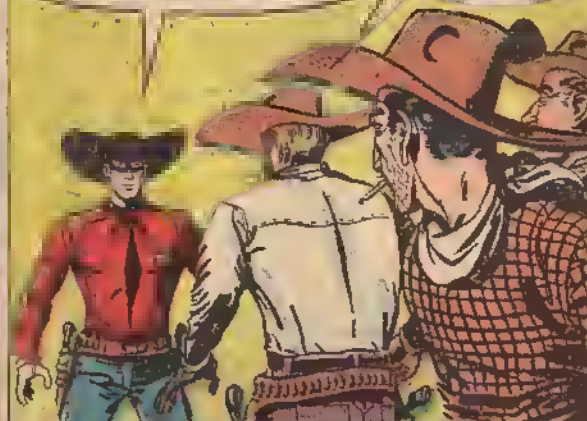
HERE'S STRONG BOW NOW, STRYKER! TELL HIM HOW YOU TRIED TO INCITE WAR BETWEEN RED MEN AND WHITE SO THAT YOU COULD FEAST OFF THE REMAINS!

VULTURE!



YOUR HORSE IS OUTSIDE, STRYKER! HE HAS CORKSCREW SHAPED ENDS ON HIS HORSESHOES! YOU'VE GOT AN ENGLISH CIGARETTE FULL OF TURKISH TOBACCO IN YOUR LYING MOUTH! TOGETHER THEY'LL SEND YOU TO THE GALLOWES BY SUNDAY!

NOT ME, DIRTY MEDDLER! WE'LL SETTLE THIS RIGHT HERE! GO FOR YOUR GUNS, BOYS!



THEY FIRED FIRST, BUMPER! LET THEM HAVE IT!



A FEW DAYS LATER...

IT'S MIGHTY GENEROUS OF YOU, STRONG BOW... TO RENT PASTURE LAND TO THE SHEEP RAISERS!

NO, BUMPER, IT IS ONLY SMART! IF PEOPLE WISH TO LIVE IN PEACE, THEY MUST SHARE TOGETHER!

AND YOU'VE DONE YOUR SHARE, STRONG BOW! WITH YOUR HELP, WE'VE TURNED PASTURE OF DEATH INTO PASTURE OF LIFE!



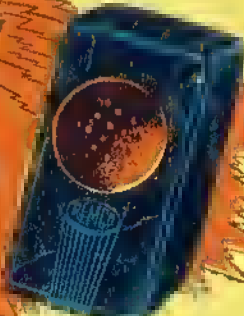
THE END



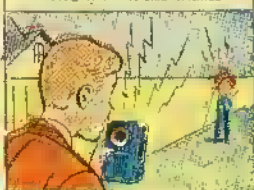


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# DOWNER'S DOWNFALL



**N**O one knew how long Downer Hatch had been prospecting in the vicinity of Grubby Gulch. In fact, no one knew exactly what Downer's name was. He was a steady customer of Sol's Saloon. The story within the confines of Sol's was, the first day Downer came in, old Sol had offered him one on the house. Sol greeted him with, "My name's Sol. Pleased to meetcha." Downer replied, picking up his glass, "Downer Hatch," and followed his own instructions. From that day forward, because no one was informed otherwise, the old prospector was known as Downer Hatch.

Downer had been panning gold in Grubby Gulch for several years now and always seemed to come forth with enough to down a few every night at Sol's, also to buy a few for some of the other regular customers.

One memorable evening, as Downer was re-laying and incurring the latest gold news of the day at Sol's, two newcomers walked into the bar. As Downer was one of the more sociable members of the crowd, he approached the two men and offered them a drink, with the usual greeting, "Downer Hatch," at which point he extended one hand, the other being well occupied.

"Howdy, Mr. Hatch," greeted the taller of the two newcomers. "My name's Grimes, and this is my partner, Taylor."

Grimes, Taylor and Hatch settled themselves comfortably at the bar and indulged in lively discussion as to the prospect of gold in Grubby Gulch. Downer, being well satisfied with his revenue from panning, didn't relay any pertinent information to the newcomers, in fact, he did his best to discourage them.

"There's no gold in that creek and I doubt it," he said.

"What makes you say that?" queried Taylor.

"What makes people come and go so fast in this town?" continued Hatch. "If there was gold, they'd stick around."

"Maybe you're right," said Grimes, "but I'm willing to take a shot at it myself." As he uttered the word "shot" he tossed a knowing

look at Taylor, which didn't pass Hatch's notice.

"What do you aim to do?" asked Hatch.

"On what we know about Grubby Gulch," continued Grimes, "I'm almost willing to sink a shaft."

"What!" exclaimed Hatch. "That's taking a long chance."

"Maybe so," answered Grimes, "but it takes gold to make gold and from what I understand, the surface has just been scratched here."

"Well," answered Hatch, dubiously, "you're on your own."

Grimes and Taylor left the saloon shortly thereafter and Hatch watched them go with a quizzical expression on his face. "Sol," he said, turning to the saloon owner, "those guys are either real smart or real crazy and I aim to find out which."

"Maybe you're right," answered Sol. "They must know something to be willing to sink a shaft."

"Guess you're right," continued Hatch. "But when you come right down to it, no one has ever sunk a shaft. All there's been is picking and panning with little result. No one thought there was enough there to really dig."

Hatch left the saloon that night with a strange feeling that something big was going to happen around Grubby Gulch before long. He couldn't figure it out. Why would green-horns be willing to sink a shaft without knowing a thing about Grubby Gulch? Maybe they knew a lot more than he gave them credit for. But then, he thought, he, Downer, knew more about gold at Grubby Gulch than any man alive. Well, he'd keep his eyes and ears open.

Hatch had never bothered to take a room in town. He lived in a half-tent, half lean-to near the bank of the stream in the hollow of the gulch. That night as he gazed into his campfire and listened to the gurgling of the stream, a plan slowly evolved in his mind. These two men must know something or they wouldn't be willing to sink a shaft. The minute

(turn page for continuation of story)



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they sink a shaft a rush will start, the buying will be mad and the prices will go sky high. He, Hatch, would just quietly buy a little land while the price was down and he'd have nothing to lose. If he never found gold there he could still build a shack, pan gold and live the rest of his life out in peace. Solving his problems thus, he rolled up in his blanket, the world and gold faded out of mind.

Downer quietly followed his plan the next day. He went to the Land Office and with a handful of dust he'd kept in reserve, he claimed a few square yards of land, enough for a house, enough for a shaft if necessary. He didn't really care, at the moment he found himself a landowner, whether he found gold or whether he built a shack. He just had a stake in part of Grubby Gulch of which he'd become very fond.

Just as he was leaving the land office, Downer noticed Grimes and Taylor going in. Curious though he was, he couldn't stay to find out what they had in mind so, he figured if he went to Sol's, sooner or later either Taylor and Grimes would come in or the news of whatever they were doing would precede them.

Neither Taylor nor Grimes showed up at Sol's but the news arrived. Before long the saloon was stirring with the news that Grimes and Taylor had bought up almost all the mountainside of Grubby Gulch. They were starting operations the next day, sinking a shaft. The strange part of the news was that Downer Hatch seemed to hold the only remaining piece of property in the Gulch. Taylor and Grimes were anxious to get it and couldn't understand what Hatch wanted with it.

Downer watched with great curiosity as they sank the shaft. He still couldn't believe that there was gold in that hill. However, Grimes and Taylor worked with grim determination. One night, after the shaft had been well sunk and operations were ready to begin, Downer was awakened from his quiet brookside slumber by strange sounds. It seemed he heard shots, but the sound was so deadened they seemed very far away. On second thought they didn't sound far away but close and muffled, almost as if someone were shooting underground. Downer gave the matter little thought, chortled and hoped maybe those two rookies had run into an underground monster and were fighting it out to the finish. With that preposterous thought he curled up in his blanket and went to sleep.

The next day as Downer wandered in Sol's, Sol greeted him excitedly. "Hey, Hatch," he cried, "did you hear? Grimes and Taylor have struck it!"

"WHAT!" cried Downer, "I can't believe it. It isn't there."

"Go see for yourself," answered Sol. "I went

early this morning. In fact, I even bought a piece of land quick."

"That's too good to be true!" answered Downer. "I already bought some land. Maybe I'd better get some more."

"Try and get some more," answered Sol. "There's been such a rush on land that it's all bought up."

"Funny thing, them selling," mused Downer. "You'd think they'd keep the lode for themselves."

"Oh, they're keeping the shaft and the vein, but they seem to be willing to sell the rest," continued Sol. "After all, it's quick profit."

"Guess you're right," concluded Downer.

As Downer wandered through town he learned that Taylor and Grimes, within four hours of striking, had sold all the land they'd bought up at about a hundred per cent profit. Downer wandered up to the shaft to see what was going on and after he'd wormed his way through the prospectors, he saw for himself. Gold, real gold! But, he suddenly realized, Taylor and Grimes were nowhere in sight.

Days passed, prospectors busily dug, sank shafts and not a speck of gold appeared. Grimes and Taylor had vanished into the vastness of the west. The more the prospectors dug, they more they realized they'd been duped. Downer wondered, and his curiosity led him to the shaft that Grimes and Taylor had sunk. Day after day he examined the gold and day after day he noticed the gold was vanishing. Suddenly he remembered the night he'd heard the muffled shots. Could it be? He rushed back to his lean-to for his shot gun and a small pocketful of dust he still had in reserve. He loaded the gun, fired gold dust into the wall of the mine. That was it! The gold imbedded in the rock wall looked like a vein. Taylor and Grimes had taken them all for the biggest ride in history.

So overcome with his discovery, Downer rushed into Sol's to relate his tale. Downer had the biggest audience in the history of Sol's Saloon. In fact, his audience was so big, and Downer felt like such a champion of the people, he repeatedly got Sol to serve his audience. The assembly increased with Downer's affluence. A torchlight parade to the scene of the crime was instigated and Downer proved his point by shooting his last remaining cache of gold dust into the wall. Downer proved his point so well that he found he had to cede, title to his little piece of property over to Sol to pay for the evening's entertainment.

Shortly after that evening, Downer Hatch moved on, as do all prospectors. Soon after Downer's demise, Sol the saloon keeper struck the biggest lode in the history of Grubby Gulch on Downer's old property. Sol called the mine "Downer's Downfall;" the other prospectors dubbed it "Sol's Salvation." *The End*

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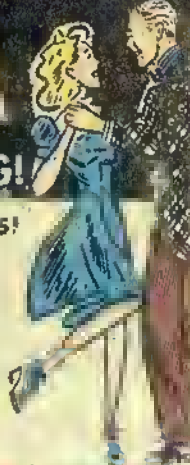
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HIDE-A-WAIST  
Back View



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Streamline your Waistline . . . Adjustable to fit exactly . . . Washable—made of Leno Lastex, satin faced rayon . . . Reinforced for long wear. Fully guaranteed. It's lightweight. Weighs about 3 ounces. It's cool-ventilated. Cut for concave effect. Will not wrinkle or ride up. Sizes 24 to 40.

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# BLACK DIAMOND

meets "THE GIRL FROM HERMIT HILL"

WAR DRUMS SOUND AND HORDES OF PAINTED BRAVES ARE UNLEASHED FOR BATTLE! BEFORE THEM STAND ONLY TWO MEN, BLACK DIAMOND, FAMED U.S. MARSHAL, AND HIS EVER-PRESENT PAL, BUMPER! TWO MEN AGAINST THOUSANDS—A HOPELESS CAUSE! BUT THEN, THERE IS A GIRL AND THE COURSE OF HISTORY IS SUDDENLY CHANGED IN THE STORY OF "THE GIRL FROM HERMIT HILL"!

WE'VE EACH GOT ONLY ONE BULLET LEFT, DIAMOND! NOW, WHAT?

WAIT A MINUTE! THAT GIRL—SHE'S OUT THERE ALONE! IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S STOPPING THE ATTACK! I CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT!



AS A SULTRY DAWN BREAKS, BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER, WHO HAVE RIDDEN ALL NIGHT, REIN UP AT CAVALRY HEADQUARTERS AT FORT WALTON...

THE COLONEL CAN'T SAY WE WASTED MUCH TIME TOGETHER, DIAMOND! I WONDER WHAT HE WANTS...

WE'LL KNOW THE ANSWER OF THAT IN A MOMENT, BUMPER!



YOU MADE IT FASTER THAN I THOUGHT YOU WOULD, DIAMOND! THAT PALOMINO OF YOURS MUST SPROUT WINGS WHEN HE'S IN A HURRY!

MY HORSE RELIAPON IS THE FASTEST CRITTER ON FOUR LEGS, COLONEL! AND EL LOBO RUNS A CLOSE SECOND! YOUR MESSAGE SOUNDED VERY URGENT! WHAT'S UP?



MORE INDIAN WARS, I'M AFRAID! WORD IS THAT CHIEF GREY HAWK IS MASSING COMBINED TRIBES FOR THE WARPATH! WE'VE GOT TO KNOW FOR SURE WHAT HE'S UP TO!

HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF SENDING TROOPS OUT?

YES, BUT OUR AGREEMENT WITH THE INDIANS IS TO KEEP OUR TROOPS OFF THEIR LAND! ANYWAY, THEY'D COVER UP ACTIVITIES AS SOON AS THEY'D SPOTTED US! BUT I THINK I COULD SCOUT AROUND AND GET THE INFORMATION I NEED WITHOUT CAUSING TROUBLE!

WE'RE WITH YA, COLONEL! WE'LL REST OUR HORSES FOR A SPELL, THEN WE'LL TAKE OFF FOR INDIAN COUNTRY!

IF GREY HAWK'S PLANNING WAR, WE'LL GET THE INFORMATION TO YOU, PRONTO!

EXCELLENT! AND IF WE KNOW THEY'RE GOING ON THE WARPATH, THAT CHANGES THE AGREEMENT! THEN WE CAN STOP THEM! GOOD LUCK, DIAMOND!



THAT EVENING, DIAMOND AND BUMPER START OUT...

HOW FAR DO WE HAVE TO GO, DIAMOND?

MAYBE TWENTY, THIRTY MILES, BEFORE WE'RE IN GREY HAWK'S TERRITORY! WE'LL TAKE IT EASY, THOUGH! IT'S BETTER TO GET THERE TOWARD MORNING!

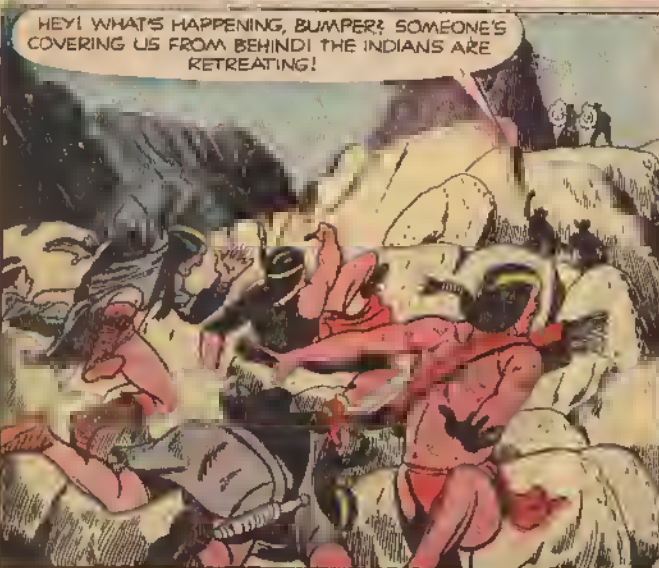


MORNING...

IT LOOKS LIKE THE COLONEL'S HUNCH WAS RIGHT, BUMPER! THEY'RE GATHERING FOR A BIG POW WOW, ALL RIGHT! IT'S NOT A TEA PARTY, EITHER! THOSE BRAVES ARE WEARING WAR PAINT! LET'S GET BACK AND TELL THE COLONEL!





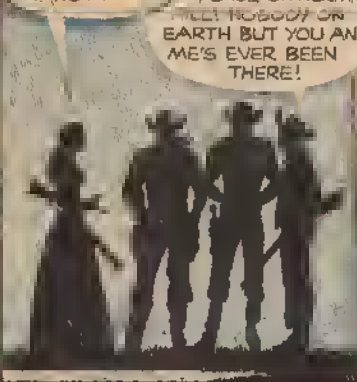


WE OWE BOTH OF YOU OUR LIVES! A FEW MINUTES MORE, AND WE'D HAVE BEEN GONERS!

I'M DIGGER MALONE, SON, AN' THIS IS MY DAUGHTER MAGGIE! NOW YOU TWO BETTER MOUNT UP AN' HIGHTAIL IT OUTTA HERE—FAST, BEFORE THEM BRAVES GET 'CHA—GOOD!



BUT DAD, WE CAN'T SEND THEM AWAY NOW! GREY HAWK'S BRAVES WILL BE WAITING FOR THEM AGAIN! LET'S TAKE THEM HOME FOR NOW!



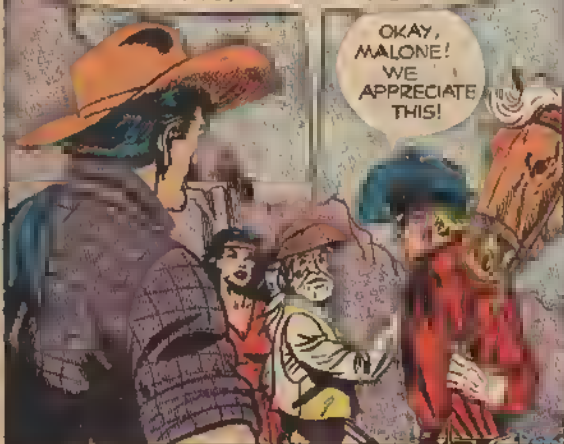
IT AIN'T OUR BUSINESS, MAGGIE! BE SIDES, YOU KNOW WE DON'T NEVER TAKE NO ONE UP TO OUR PLACE ON HERMIT HILL! NOBODY ON EARTH BUT YOU AN' ME'S EVER BEEN THERE!

VERY WELL! THEN I'LL ESCORT THEM OUT OF THE HILLS MYSELF!

ALL RIGHT, CHILD! WE'LL DO LIKE YOU SAY! WE'LL TAKE 'EM TO OUR PLACE ON HERMIT HILL!



WE BETTER WALK! NO USE SITTING UP THERE ON THEM HORSES, WHERE AN INJUN ARROW CAN FIND A MIGHTY FINE TARGET IN YOUR HEAD! TAIN'T FAR TO THE PLACE! IT'S JUST HARD TO FIND, 'LESS YOU KNOW IT!



OKAY, MALONE! WE APPRECIATE THIS!

WE'LL CROSS THIS STREAM! IT'S A GOOD WAY OF LOSING OUR TRACKS!



YOU SURE KNOW YOUR WAY AROUND THESE HILLS, MALONE!

DAD'S LIVED HERE MOST OF HIS LIFE! NOT EVEN THE EAGLES KNOW THE HILLS AS WELL AS HE DOES! AND NOBODY HAS EVER FOUND OUR PLACE ON HERMIT HILL!

WE STOP HERE! NOW THIS IS A TRICKY ONE! I PULL THIS CLUMP OF BUSHES TO ONE SIDE—YA SEE THAT! NOW GO AHEAD—WALK IN!



BUT AS THEY ARE ABOUT TO ENTER THE SECRET TUNNEL, TWO OF GREY HAWK'S SCOUTS ARE WATCHING.

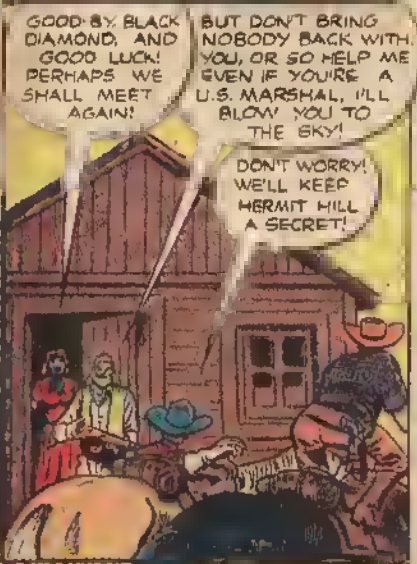
I FOUND THIS PLACE YEARS AGO WHEN I WAS PROSPECTIN'! AN' I'VE KEPT IT A SECRET ALL THIS TIME!

IT'LL REMAIN A SECRET AS FAR AS WE'RE CONCERNED, MALONE!

WELL, LET'S GO!







WE'LL LOSE MAYBE HALF AN HOUR—BUT WE'LL MAKE IT UP LATER! IN ANY EVENT, WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT IF THEY'RE IN TROUBLE—AND IF SO, HELP 'EM OUT!



HURRY, BUMPER! THE CABIN'S RUINED AND POOR OLD MALONE LOOKS DEAD! AND THERE'S NO SIGN OF THE GIRL!

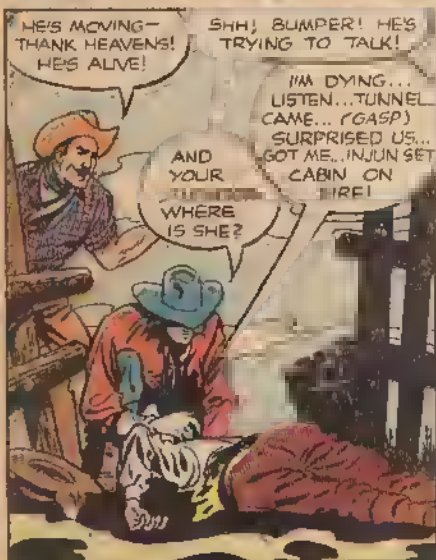


HE'S MOVING—THANK HEAVENS! HE'S ALIVE!

SHH! BUMPER! HE'S TRYING TO TALK!

I'M DYING... LISTEN... TUNNEL CAME... (GASP) SURPRISED US... GOT ME, INJUN SET CABIN ON FIRE!

AND YOUR WHERE IS SHE?



GREY HAWKS MEN TOOK HER! MUSTA SEEN HER RING... SAVE HER, DIAMOND...

RING?



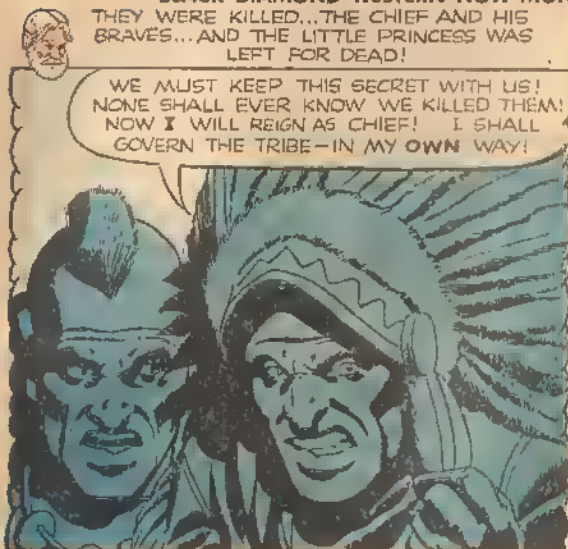
YES... RING TATTOOED ON MIDDLE FINGER... LEFT HAND... TATTOO SIGN OF INJUN PRINCESS! SHE'S NOT MY REAL DAUGHTER... SHE'S A PRINCESS! LISTEN, GOTTA TELL YOU ABOUT IT...



IT HAPPENED TEN YEARS AGO... MAGGIE'S FATHER, GREY FEATHER, WAS CHIEF OF THE TRIBE! HIS MOST TRUSTED SCOUT WAS GREY HAWK, WHO STARTED A CONSPIRACY AGAINST HIM! GREY HAWK ATTACKED UNEXPECTEDLY ONE DAY AND THE CHIEF'S LOYAL FOLLOWERS NEVER HAD A CHANCE!







THEY WERE KILLED...THE CHIEF AND HIS BRAVES...AND THE LITTLE PRINCESS WAS LEFT FOR DEAD!

WE MUST KEEP THIS SECRET WITH US! NONE SHALL EVER KNOW WE KILLED THEM! NOW I WILL REIGN AS CHIEF! I SHALL GOVERN THE TRIBE-IN MY OWN WAY!



THEY LEFT...I CAME ALONG AND HEARD THE LITTLE GIRL CRYING...

MY DADDY'S DEAD!

THERE, THERE, SWEETIE! YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT! DIGGER MALONE'S TAKIN' CARE OF YOU NOW! OLD DIGGER WILL SEE THAT YOU'RE ALL RIGHT! NOW STOP THAT CRYIN'!



THEN SHE'S THE RIGHTFUL RULER OF THE TRIBE-AND NOT GREY HAWK! DIDN'T YOU EVER TELL ANYBODY?

NO! I WAS AFRAID! I'D JUST LOST MY OWN WIFE AND GIRL A MONTH BEFORE! I WANTED A DAUGHTER SO BAD I DIDN'T WANT ANYBODY TO KNOW! THAT'S WHY WE LIVED ON HERMITS



SAVE HER! SAVE MAGGIE- SAVE THE PRINCESS! PLEASE SAVE HER...UHH...

POOR OLD MALONE- HE'S GONE!

AND WE'VE GOT A JOB TO DO!



THE INDIANS MUST'VE BEEN ON FOOT! THERE'S NOT A SIGN OF HOOFPRIENTS AROUND HERE! THAT'S A BREAK! THEY'VE GOT A HEAD START, BUT WE'LL CATCH THEM ON HORSEBACK!

C'MON, BUMPER- LET'S GO!



OUTSIDE THE TUNNEL, ON THE NEARBY ROCKS...

WHAT DO YOU SEE THERE, DIAMOND?

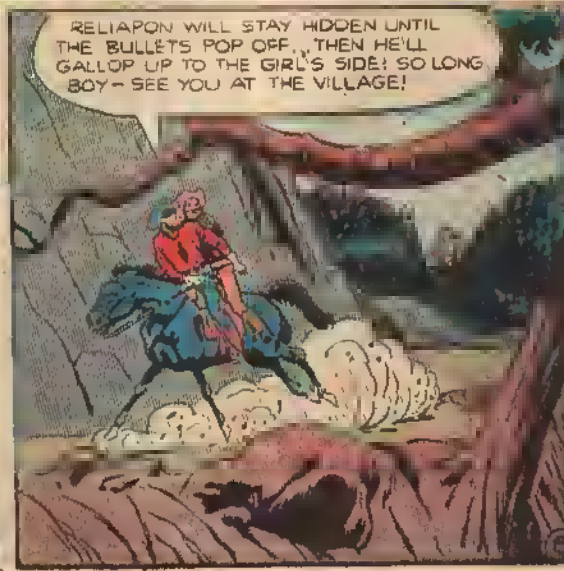
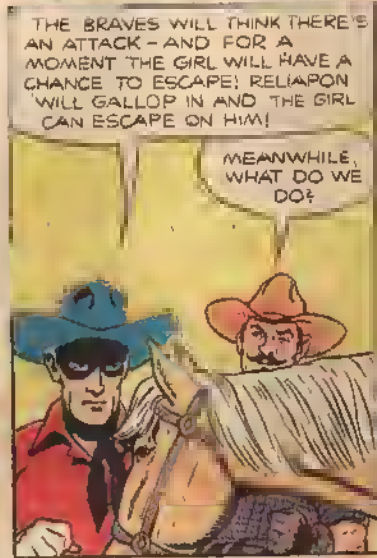
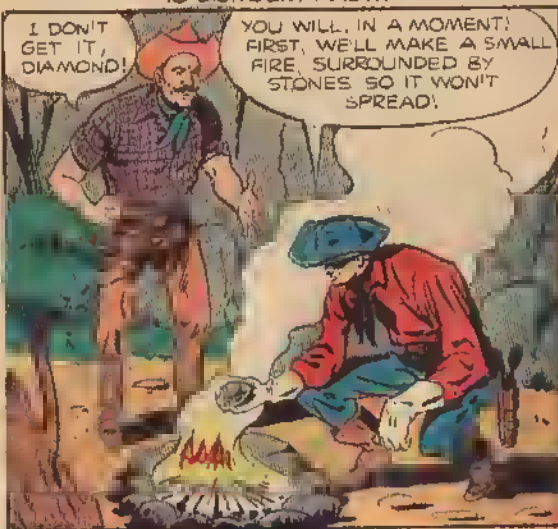
SIGNS OF MOCCASINS SCUFFED ON THESE ROCKS! THEY PASSED THIS WAY IN A SOUTHWESTERLY DIRECTION! THAT MEANS THEY'RE HEADING STRAIGHT FOR GREY HAWK'S VILLAGE!



LATER...

THERE THEY ARE DOWN YONDER! COME ON, BUMPER! I'VE GOT AN IDEA!

LATER, FAR UP THE TRAIL, DIAMOND ASKS BUMPER TO DISMOUNT AND...

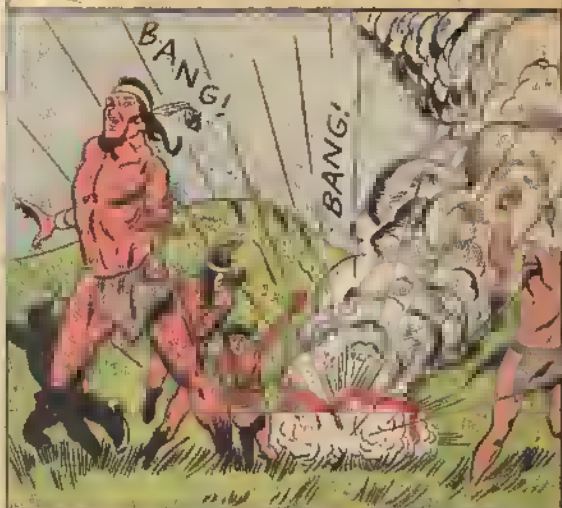




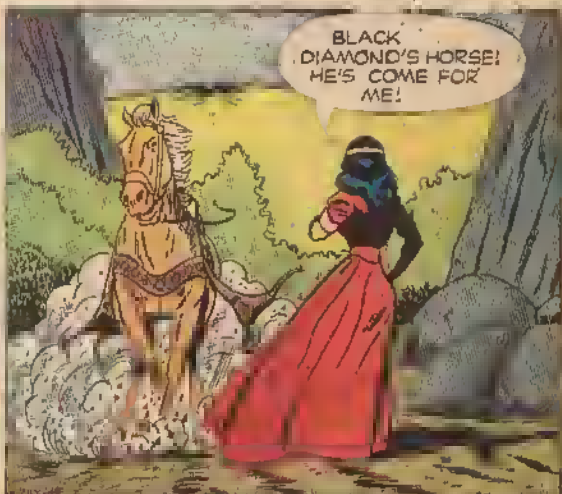
A HALF-HOUR LATER, GREY HAWK'S WARRIORS APPROACH THEIR DESTINATION...



AT THAT MOMENT THE WET LEAVES HAVE DRIED OUT, AND...



AS GREY HAWK'S MEN RUN OFF, RELIAPON DASHES TO THE RESCUE OF THE INDIAN PRINCESS...



THE INDIANS DISCOVER THE RUSE—BUT TOO LATE—AS RELIAPON GALLOPS OFF BEFORE A HAIL OF ARROWS!

LOOK! WE WERE TRICKED! THEY WERE MERELY BULLETS IN A FIRE!

AND THE GIRL IS ESCAPING ON THAT PALOMINO! GREY HAWK WILL HAVE OUR LIVES FOR THIS!



MEANWHILE, BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER ARRIVE AT GREY HAWK'S VILLAGE...

I WARN YOU, GREY HAWK! DON'T START A WAR—YOU'LL REGRET IT!

GREY HAWK DO AS WE WANT! NOT TAKE ORDERS FROM PALEFACE! PREPARE FOR WAR, BRAVES!









YES, YES! THE PALEFACE SPEAKS THE TRUTH! IT IS THE RING! SHE IS OUR PRINCESS!

GREY HAWK KILLED MY FATHER-BUT I LIVED! I HAVE RETURNED TO YOU!

DEATH TO GREY HAWK!



WHERE IS HE? HE HAS GONE! GREY HAWK HAS FLED! AFTER HIM!

BUT AS THE BRAVES ARE ABOUT TO TAKE CHASE, BUMPER CARRIES IN GREY HAWK-UNCONSCIOUS...



I SAW HIM SNEAK AWAY SO I WENT AFTER HIM! WELL, HERE HE IS!

GOOD WORK, BUMPER!



NOW THERE SHALL BE NO WAR! THAT SHALL BE MY MESSAGE TO THE COLONEL! WE'D BETTER TAKE GREY HAWK BACK AS OUR PRISONER! HE SHOULD BE MADE TO PAY FOR HIS WRONGS!

NO, BLACK DIAMOND! YOU CANNOT TAKE HIM BACK!



INDIAN JUSTICE - NOT PALEFACE JUSTICE - SHALL DECIDE HIS FATE! AND WHAT OF YOUR FATE, BLACK DIAMOND? DO YOU STAY HERE?

I MUST GO BACK, MAGGIE - BUT ONE DAY, PERHAPS I SHALL RETURN! UNTIL THEN - GOOD-BY!



THE RIVER'S COURSE LEADS ALWAYS TO THE SEA! MAYBE THE MASKED ONE'S COURSE SHALL LEAD BACK HERE!

I THINK NOT! HE IS LIKE THE WIND THAT GOES ALL PLACES, NEVER STOPPING AT ONE! FAREWELL, BLACK DIAMOND!

THE END

MANY  
Hollywood  
Stars

YOU CAN TOO!

REDUCE

THIS NEW  
EASY  
WAY

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# BINGBANG BUSTER

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU, HEDY, IS THAT I CAN SNOOZE WHILE YOU CRUISE, AND I ALWAYS FEEL SAFE! WAKE ME UP AT THE NEXT TOWN!

U.S. BOMB-TESTING GROUNDS  
**KEEP OUT!  
DANGER!**  
TEST EXPLOSIONS  
NOW IN PROGRESS

SCRAM!

BEAT IT!

BLOW!

GO AWAY!

BY BASIL  
BOMBBEAK  
WOLVERTON

A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY.....

WE'RE READY FOR THE NEXT TEST BLAST, KERNEL MCNAST! THE SPECIAL BOMB IS OUT THERE IN THE DESERT, AND WE'LL TRY EXPLODING IT WITH THIS NEW RADIO DETONATOR!

GOOD! AS SOON AS I DITCH THIS SANDWICH, I'LL PITCH THE SWITCH, LT. TWITCH!

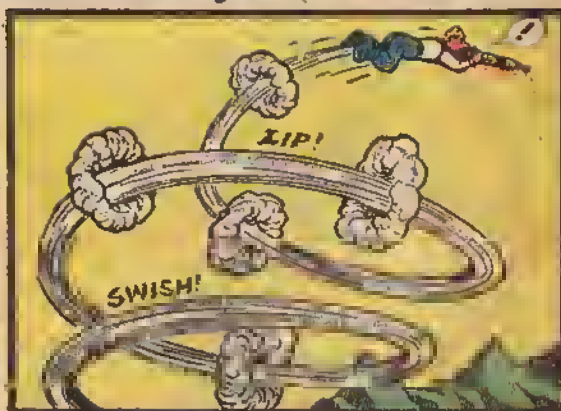
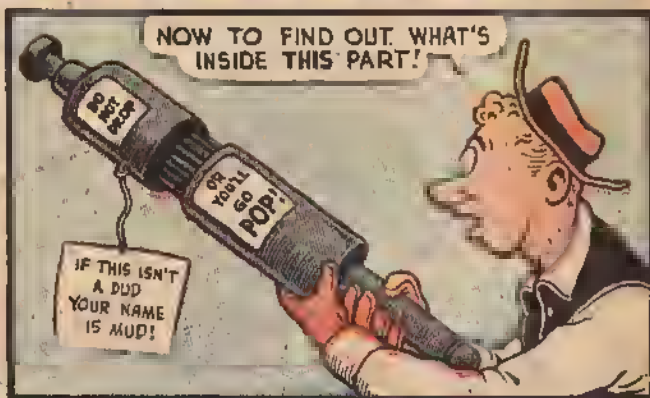
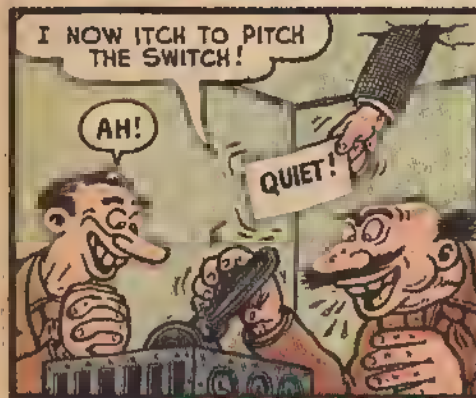
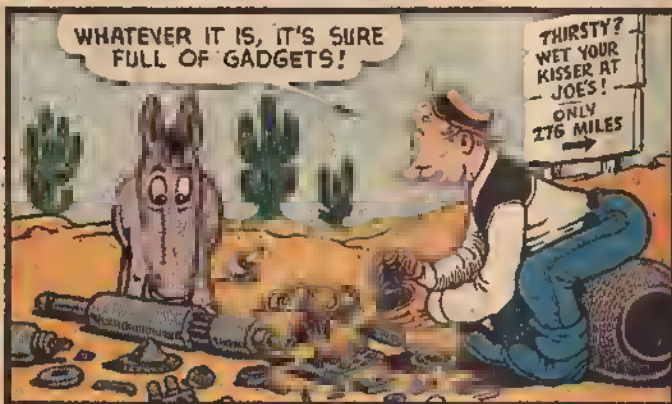
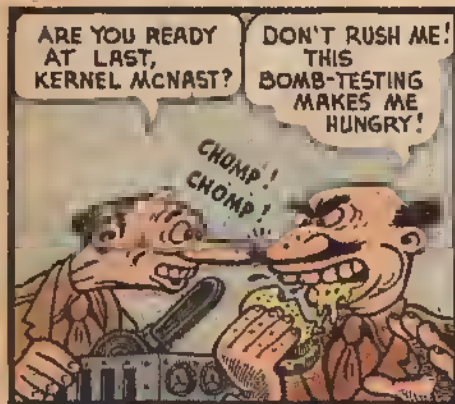
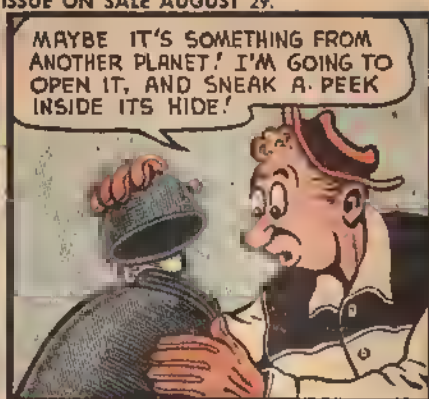
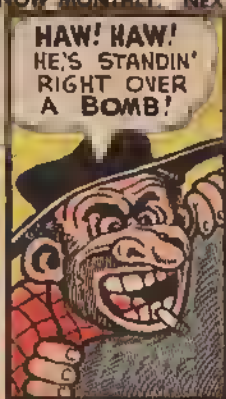
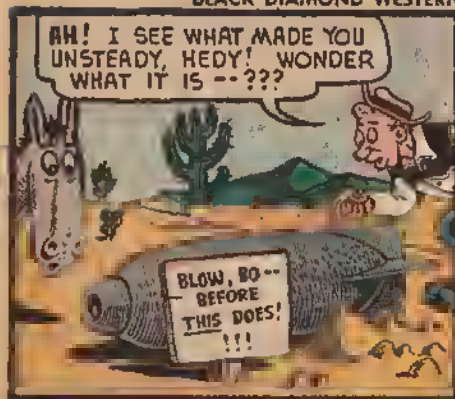
AND A FEW HUNDRED FEET BEHIND BINGBANG..

CAN YUH BEAT THAT? I BUST OUTTA JAIL AN' FOLLER THAT BINGBANG BUSTER SHRIMP FER FIFTEEN MILES FER A CHANCE TO DRILL HIS BILL FER DRAGGIN' ME IN FER CATTLE RUSTLIN', AND NOW THE BOOB RIDES RIGHT INTO A BOMB-TESTIN' AREA! HEH! HEH! THIS'LL SAVE ME A BULLET, BESIDES BEIN' VERY ENTERTAININ'!

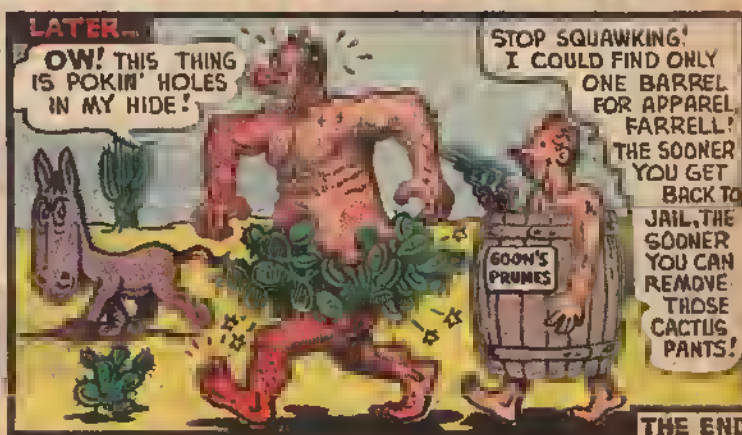
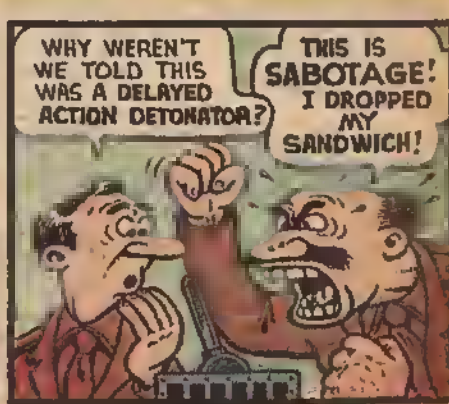
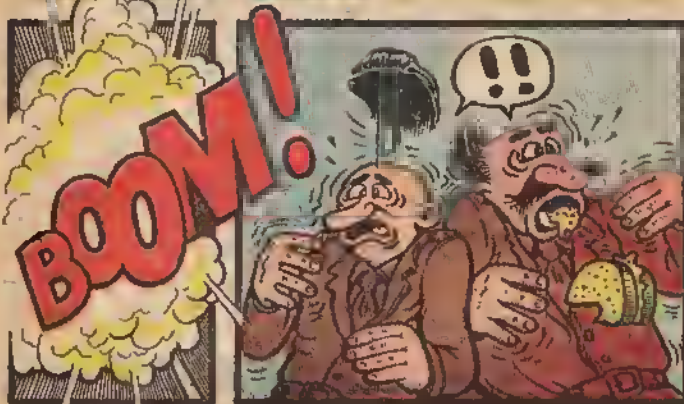
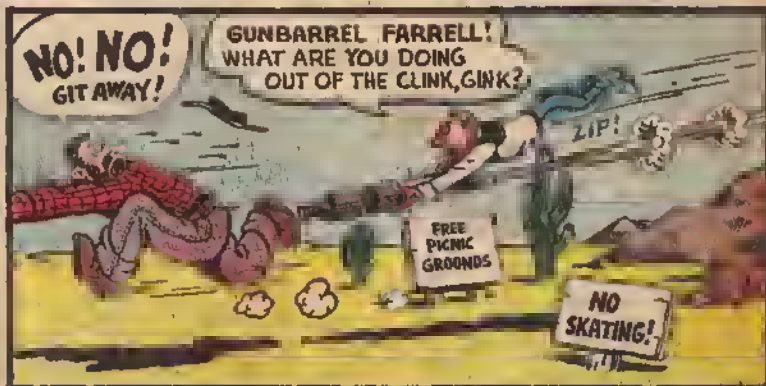
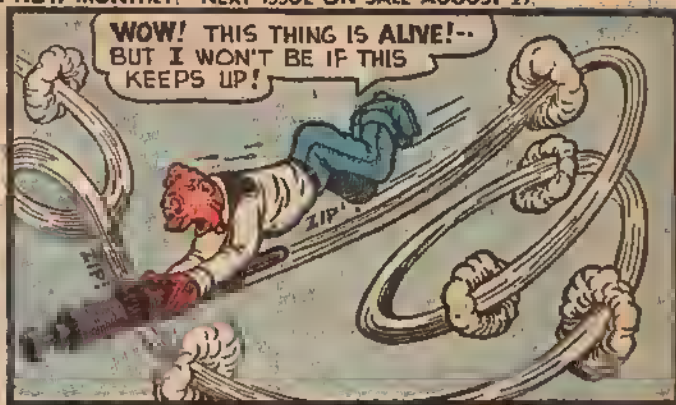
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PILLS!

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# STAMP PAGE

by *SIDNEY M. ELIAS*

# Why Save Stamps?

HAVE you ever heard someone say "Why do you save stamps?" or, "Why do you spend money for stamps that are already cancelled?" Perhaps you have heard the same thing said in a different way however, the following will give you an idea of why others save stamps.

Stamp collecting is the most popular hobby among men, women and children of all walks of life. Kings, presidents, bankers, bootblacks, and the kid around the corner, all have a common interest in stamps. Its their hobby and they get many hours of pleasure from their collections whether it be in a handsome leather bound album or a dime notebook.

To the boy collector, large colorful pictorials, odd shapes or stamps from far away places may meet his fancy. The adult collector may go in for rare errors or advanced stamps. But, no matter whether it is the boy who spends a few pennies for his stamps or the adult who spends many dollars, the interest in their hobby is the same.

It is fascinating to the boy collector to obtain stamps from far away places for he pictures in his mind the distances in which the stamp may have travelled. Perhaps it was carried by a native, then transferred to a camel or donkey, then on a steamer or even an airplane, and finally to end up in his collection. If stamps could talk each one could tell a most interesting story.

Aside from being a hobby, the collecting of stamps is very educational and profitable. From the designs pictured on them, one can get an interesting idea of the history and geography of a country; its agricultural products and mineral resources; its language and monetary units; and a general idea of its cities and people.

In general, the collecting of stamps provides one with an interesting hobby affording many hours of pleasure and at the same time gives one a liberal education. In addition, it gives the junior collector an idea of values when he engages in trading his duplicates.

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**YES!** JOHN SILL'S SUCCESS STORY can soon be your own success story. HOW A THIN WEAKLING WINS A TROPHY AS A MAGNIFICENT AMERICAN HE-MAN. A few weeks ago, John was a skinny weakling. Everybody picked on him. He had no punch, no guts to fight for his rights. TODAY everyone admires John's movie-star champion build — his mighty ARMS, his heroic CHEST, his rock-like TORSO, his broad BACK, his military SHOULDERS. His newly-born POPULARITY with fellows. The way GIRLS flock around him. His prowess on the ATHLETIC field. His double energy at work.

**NO!** I don't care how skinny or flabby you are; if you're 14 or 40; if you're short or tall, or what work you do. All I want is JUST 10 EXCITING MINUTES in your own home to MAKE YOU OVER by the SAME METHOD I turned myself from a wreck to a Champion of Champions.

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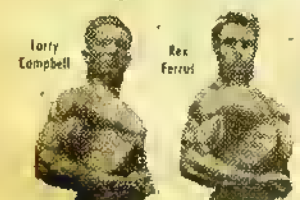
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Rex Ferrus was a weakling, paid a few cents to start building at home into a Champion All-Around He-Man!

Larry Campbell paid me hundreds of dollars to train at my side years ago. Start to become an All-Around He-Man at home with these same secrets for only a few cents like Rex Ferrus did! Now Rex is tops in Sports, Job, Popularity, as you can be.



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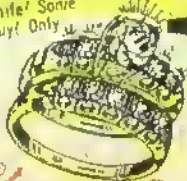
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Something special and very playful!  
IMAGINE — 12 Sparkling Pseudo  
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HERE'S AN AMAZING  
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COLOR-SWEPT  
NAVY—Luana  
Falls—two  
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You've never seen such an elaborate, costly presentation of dresses, and it's all yours—ABSOLUTELY FREE—just for sending this coupon. You'll see a complete collection of gorgeous styles, showing full real colors and in every kind of quality fabric—nylons, rayons, cottons, woolens, crepes—guaranteed to fit and wear and launder or money back—and at sensational money-saving prices. You don't pay one penny now or ever for this wonderful presentation. Hurry! Rush coupon and it will be on the way to you ABSOLUTELY FREE.



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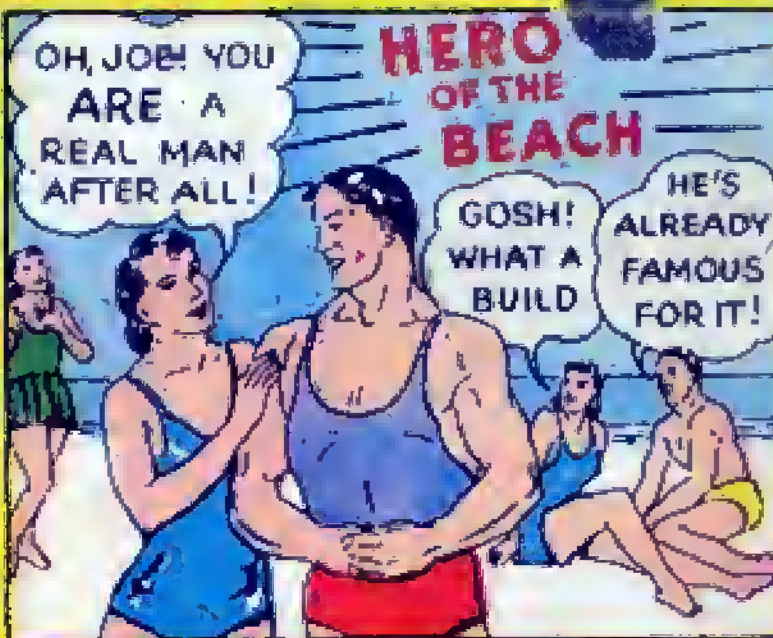
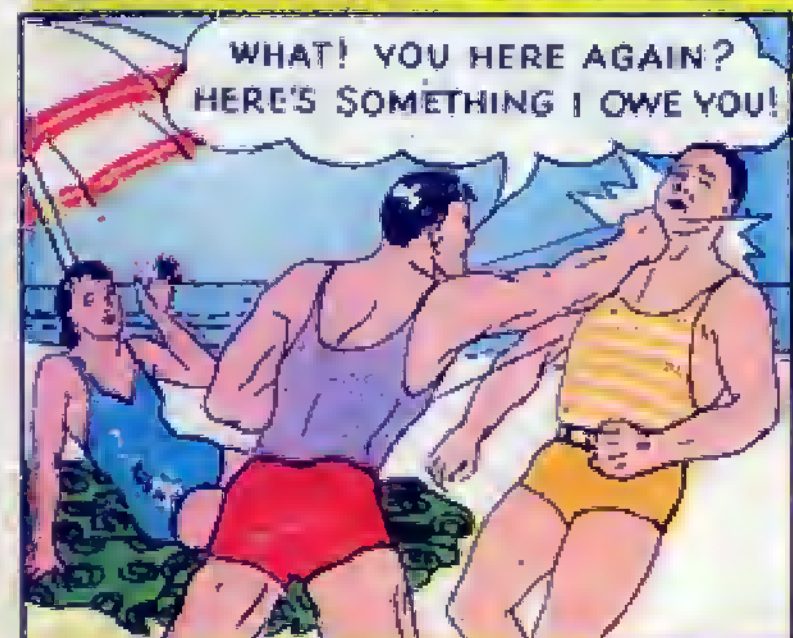
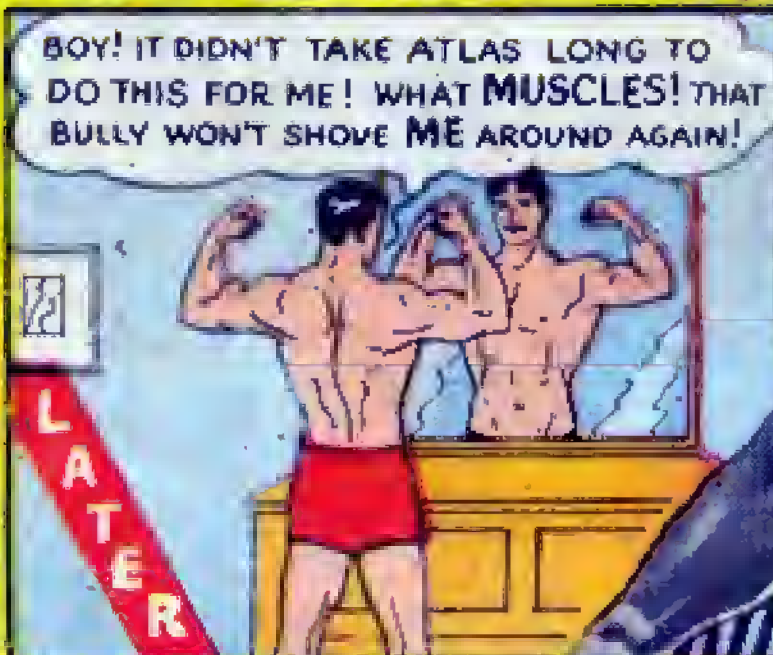
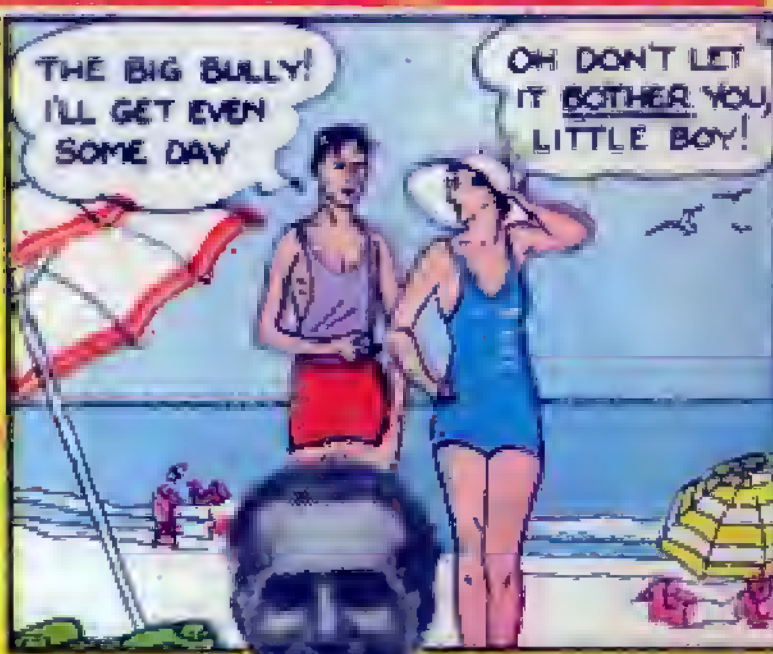
Dress Size \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Paste This Coupon on Postcard—and Mail



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FAME INSTEAD  
OF SHAME



**I Can Make YOU a New Man, Too, in Only 15 Minutes a Day!**

If YOU, like Joe, have a body that others can "push around"—if you're ashamed to strip for sports or a swim—then give me just 15 minutes a day! I'll PROVE you can have a body you'll be proud of, packed with red-blooded vitality! "Dynamic Tension." That's the secret! That's how I changed myself from a spindle-shanked, scrawny weakling to winner of the title, "World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

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Using "Dynamic Tension" only 15 minutes a day, in the privacy of your own room, you quickly begin to put on muscle, increase your chest measurements, broaden your back, fill out your arms and legs. Before you know it, this easy,

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*Charles Atlas*

—actual photo of the man who holds the title, "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

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